

Specific proposals may be submitted for discussion until October 31. Some have already been tabled, and we expect the whole range of subjects discussed at the Conference to be covered by additional proposals to be introduced at Commission meetings beginning this week. I expect the gap between them to be wide on some issues. The real test of the Conference is coming as we begin to shape the kind of document to be put forward for consideration by Ministers in December. We are calling it "The Programme for International Economic Cooperation" and, if we succeed, it will be the tangible product of the Conference.

I expect that this programme will be a complex document covering all the major areas dealt with at the Conference and taking the form of decisions, commitments and recommendations having both short-term and longer-term effects. Clearly, all the North-South problems cannot be solved definitively in one document, but where there is need it should make it possible to achieve further progress in other fora. The alternative is increased tension, with all the opportunities this gives to disruptive moves in some vitally important areas as energy, trade in raw materials, access and investment. The challenge is great, and at this point the success of the CIEC is by no means assured. Much will depend