
dynamic world economy. The world may have to curb the rate of growth of its consumption of certain raw materials. But this should be done in a co-ordinated manner and not by acts that cause economic dislocation, unnecessary unemployment and declining incomes.

That is why reasonable security of supply for consumers is the counterpart of the rights of producers.

Abrupt and arbitrary actions affecting supply may seriously disrupt international economic co-operation. All of us, whether raw-materials producers or industrialized countries, whether developed or developing -- or a bit of both --, have a responsibility to exercise our sovereign rights in a manner that does not run counter to the interest of other countries and peoples in the maintenance of a favourable economic environment.

This is all the more important if the world is to exercise prudence in the consumption of finite resources. It is extremely difficult, if not impossible, to plan rationally for conservation of world resources within an unstable economic environment in which countries must constantly adjust to fluctuations in world prices and supplies.

I turn, then, to the three urgent problems I identified at the outset -- food, energy and inflation.

Food In the final analysis, foodstuffs are the most essential of raw materials. We are acutely aware of this because the world faces a grave situation, already marked by famine and distress. The World Food Conference in Rome later this year was called in recognition of the need to find constructive international solutions to this most pressing problem. We attach particular importance to the work of that conference, yet the urgency of the matter justifies some further comments.

Canada has for years been a major exporter of food and a large contributor of food aid internationally. We shall maintain our food-aid contributions bilaterally and through the international mechanisms we strongly support. The expenditure of an additional \$100 million was approved by the Canadian Government last week to meet the emergency needs of developing countries, particularly for food and fertilizer. The world food problem, however, cannot be met by the exporting countries alone. It requires concerted action by all those countries able to contribute, and firm support for existing mechanisms. Canada welcomes the recent contribution by Saudi Arabia to the World Food Program. Such contributions are essential if we are to meet the crisis in food supplies in a number of countries.
