

Canada will continue to support the developing countries in promoting their progress within the framework of their own values, priorities and traditions.

(TRANSLATION)

The Government of Canada has made a commitment to increase the level of our official development assistance, and to direct the major portion to the world's poorer countries.

Canada is determined to fulfill its commitments, and to work co-operatively with other countries towards the realization of greater social and economic justice in the world community. To that end, we are also eager to contribute actively to the successful outcome of your deliberations.

Pierre Elliott Trudeau"

(TEXT)

As our Prime Minister has indicated, this conference addresses one of the fundamental issues in international economic co-operation. The harsh reality is that, at a time when we are all affected by many kinds of international crises, and at a time when there is an unprecedented need for the United Nations, we find that people around the world have a diminishing faith in the ability of the international community to fulfill the vision which inspired its founding members -- for global stability, social justice, and prosperity for all. The problems we will be addressing are urgent enough in themselves to motivate us to make this conference a success. But we are also working under the additional challenge to show now, when the world's needs are so great, that the international community can respond in an effective manner and demonstrate that practical, realistic progress can be achieved.

We have been tasked by UNCTAD Resolution 122 (V) with the finalization and adoption of a substantial new programme of action as part of the international development strategy for the 1980s. This conference thus responds to the "cri de coeur" of the poor, to those who see their own hopes for a better life disappointed, and to those who face the even more terrible prospect of their children's lives being blighted by poverty. The recent World Bank and UNCTAD

* United Nations Conference on Trade and Development