

imaginative proposal has created already, it should be possible to expand the scope of existing arrangements in terms of participants and beneficiaries as well as the projects undertaken.

Not only are the benefits which a regional development scheme such as this could bestow attractive, but so too might be the benefits accruing from the gradual development of economic and other exchanges between the component units of the region as arranged bilaterally or within the scope of a wider development scheme.

It is, however, difficult to see how these possibilities could be adequately realized as long as hostilities continue in the area.

A cessation of hostilities thus seems to be the basic requirement for any progress towards either a negotiated and durable political settlement or a development scheme; far from

being mutually exclusive, these two avenues -- if a first step could be taken -- would complement and reinforce each other and progress in one sphere could very easily stimulate or facilitate progress in the other. Both are aspects of the same geographical and political realities, and in the view of the Canadian Government they merit the earnest consideration of all governments who wish no more for that troubled area than that its people may enjoy enduring peace under institutions which they themselves have chosen as best calculated to ensure a brighter and more prosperous future.

Ottawa,
April 27, 1965.