

It is tempting to point a finger of accusation at oil producers. We must, however, recognize that not all oil producers find themselves in the same economic circumstances. They are not all rich. Moreover, accusatory exhortation from developed countries is not the best way of calling forth a spirit of co-operation. Our example would be more persuasive. Without any doubt we need the help of oil producing countries if we are to succeed in producing the necessary enlargement of the flow of development aid bilaterally or through multilateral institutions. Canada is prepared to play its part.

The inter-relationship of the political objectives of Arab oil producers and the economic objectives of all OPEC members is bound to complicate the present problem. This conference, however, is not intended to deal with basic political issues at play in the Middle East. It will be hard enough to achieve any progress in dealing with the strictly economic dimension of the problem, which is our main concern here.