

It was agreed that the matter should be reviewed and it was noted that assistance might be made available through the proposed CARICOM technical assistance fund for the hire of regional experts.

Both sides proposed new projects for consideration as a basis for further action and it was agreed that these would form part of the agenda for detailed analysis at the next Ad Hoc Working Group meeting foreseen for May, 1981.

#### Role of the Private Sector

The meeting recognized the importance of the private sector as a vehicle of joint industrial and commercial action between Canada and the CARICOM region. It welcomed the information that the Canadian Association for Latin America (CALA) has been expanded in scope to encompass the Caribbean region, and noted with approval the fact that a joint meeting of representatives from CALA and the Caribbean Association of Industry and Commerce (CAIC) was held concurrently with the second meeting of the second meeting of the JTEC.

#### North-South Negotiations

In exchanges on the North-South negotiations, the meeting took note of the role which Canada is playing in the preparatory work for the proposed summit conference in Mexico and to ensure the centrality of North-South issues at the forthcoming Summit of the Seven Industrialized Countries and the Commonwealth Conference in Canberra. The Canadian Minister expressed a basic sympathy with the view that steps should be taken to ensure that the CARICOM Member States with their special problems and difficulties, and as a most seriously affected region should qualify for assistance both individually and collectively, from any emergency programme of aid on which the international community might agree.

#### Hemispheric Affairs

In considering the role of Western Hemispheric Commonwealth States in Western Hemisphere affairs, it was agreed that a major feature of present-day Caribbean reality is the fact of the movement towards integration in the form of the Caribbean Community and that such acceptance should be manifested by the inclusion, in the programmes of co-operation with the subregion, of significant components of assistance at the regional level.