

The agreement signed by more than seventy GATT members at the conclusion of the Punta del Este meeting included agricultural subsidies on the agenda for the Uruguay Round. The issue of trade in services was also included, as were trade in investment and "intellectual property" (copyrights, patents and trademarks).

Canadian delegates were reported to be elated at the success of the conference, and said they believed protectionist moves in the US would be defused as a result (*Globe and Mail*, September 22).

## NATO

### **Troop Movements**

At the European Disarmament Conference in Stockholm at the end of August, the US made a "major concession" (*Globe and Mail*, August 28) to the Soviet Union by agreeing that NATO would give the Soviets notice of Canadian and US troop movements to Western Europe, beginning January 1, 1987. The agreement raised hopes that an overall accord could be worked out in the last weeks of the conference, said the head of the Swedish delegation, Ambassador Curt Lidgard.

NATO diplomats tried to play down the role of the US in the agreement, saying that all members of NATO had been involved. In return for information on troop movements to Europe, the USSR agreed to the principle of giving advance notice of troop concentrations, NATO sources said (See Policy — Disarmament — Stockholm Conference, below).

## UNITED NATIONS

### **Lewis Appointment**

On September 2, Stephen Lewis, Canada's Ambassador to the UN, was appointed special political adviser to UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar in implementing a 5-year economic recovery program for Africa. The program, drafted in May and June (See "International Canada" for June and July 1986), is the first of its kind in UN history. Mr. Lewis, in his capacity as special adviser, would work alongside a steering committee which was coordinating the recovery program. The Ambassador said that his role would be to advise Mr. Perez de Cuellar in a personal capacity, and that the advice that he gave in terms of Africa would not be a reflection of Canadian policy (*Globe and Mail*, September 3).

*The Citizen* on September 3 quoted Mr. Lewis as saying that "There has to be constant pressure maintained, a kind of catalyst energizing the process so that the focus is singleminded and unrelenting through the whole period of African recovery . . . Individual countries, particularly outside Africa, may have to be encouraged to allocate more of their resources to do the job. . . ."

### **Clark Speech**

On September 24 in a speech to the UN General Assembly, External Affairs Minister Joe Clark said that the UN's financial woes were partly the result of waste and partly caused by late payments and withholding of contributions. The Minister urged members to adopt without delay the recent proposals of an 18-member UN committee to reduce by 15 percent the UN's 11,000-member staff, and to implement other deep budget cuts in the organization (*Globe and Mail*, September 25).

In his speech Mr. Clark also questioned the UN's effectiveness in achieving its goals. "This was to be a forum in which difficult decisions were to be taken; it has become a means to avoid them. Where there is a crisis, we have endless debate. When there is a need for hard compromise, we draft resolutions which defy agreement. Our publics. . . want peace and prosperity and justice. . . They want results, not only speeches" (External Affairs statement, September 24). Calling Canada "a strong friend of the UN," the Minister pointed out that Canada alone could not protect the UN from the erosion of respect which was gradually undermining it (*Le Devoir*, September 25).

Mr. Clark's speech also touched on the problems of apartheid and international terrorism, and the progress of disarmament negotiations between the US and the USSR.

### **Strong Report**

The *Globe and Mail* reported on September 25 that Canadian Maurice Strong, an Undersecretary-General of the UN, and head of the UN Office for Emergency Operations in Africa, had written, with Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan of Pakistan, a report recommending a reduction in net UN spending from US \$700 million to between \$525 and \$600 million. Mr. Strong said in an interview that the UN "could be much more efficient and revitalized with a budget that is 20 to 25 percent less than it now is."

The report, an internal UN document complementing the report by the 18-member UN committee on budget cuts which was to be debated by the General Assembly in October, also recommended the elimination of UN organizations such as the World Food Council, the Disaster Relief Organization, and the Population Division.