remaining outstanding issues relate to seabed production policies, transfer of te nology, financing and statute of the enterprise, and the constitution of and votin the Council of the International Seabed Authority (ISA). There is a divergenc opinion on most of these issues between the Group of 77 on one hand and industrialized and socialist countries on the other. The gap can be bridged but i apparent that at the Geneva meeting both sides will be required to make comprom if the conference is to reach a successful conclusion.

Canada's major concerns at this stage relate to seabed mining and sovereign rights o the continental margin. Canada seeks controls on subsidization of seabed min operations and an acceptable limit on the rate of growth of nickel mining. The q tion of coastal state sovereign rights over the margin involves a number of clo interrelated issues: the limits of the continental shelf; financial contributions (reve sharing); and marine scientific research. Canada would prefer that coastal st establish their limits "taking into account" – rather than "on the basis of" – limits of the continental shelf. It accepts the principle of revenue-sharing but w to ensure that the rate does not prevent development or impose unreasonable fi cial burdens on the Government. It is concerned that the coastal states be ab control the kind of information they disclose about their activities on the mar proprietary information should not be required when refusing others the righ marine scientific research, though consent for such research should not be with unreasonably.

**North-South**

The search by both developed and developing countries for reforms in the wo economic order is certain to be a central issue of the 1980s. Such reforms have made more urgent by the recent major rises in oil prices which have hit the no developing countries especially hard. It is estimated that the OPEC (Organizati Petroleum Exporting Countries) countries will run a current-account surplus of $115 billion this year, and that the deficits of non-oil developing countries ar OECD (Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development) countries w roughly equal. What is more, the deficit of the non-oil developing countries is liminarily projected to rise by another $10 billion in 1981 to nearly $80 billion, the OECD countries should see a significant drop in their deficit to less than billion. The OECD countries are continuing to experience high inflation and growth, partly because of the oil-price rises.

The needs of the oil-importing developing countries have probably never been gr but they come when the OECD countries feel least able to offer significant new because of their own economic difficulties. The central problem is how to cope high energy prices. Already in the 1970s, a number of the poorest developing tries were forced to cut back the volume of their imports because of high oil p Their growth suffered as a consequence. Those which could turned to large scal rowing from private Western banks. In the wake of the recent doubling of th price, there is reason to fear that some of these countries will no longer be able the credit necessary to maintain the desired volume of imports so that they to experience much slower growth.

The oil-importing developing countries are calling for more concessional assis