

All governments participating in this newly-expanded information and early warning system are expected to furnish, on a regular basis, as much current information and forecast as possible. The proposed system would initially cover basic food products, especially wheat, coarse grains, soybeans, and livestock products, and to the extent it is practicable, it would also cover other important food products and other relevant areas such as prices and production of agricultural inputs and equipment, the food industry, and livestock health.

Canada also supports the World Food Conference's call for increased funding for agricultural production in the developing countries. An International Fund for Agricultural Development to which all countries would be asked to contribute on a voluntary basis, was approved by the Conference. The next step in establishing this fund as a viable operation, would be the calling of a pledging conference by the Secretary-General of the United Nations. Such a fund would become operative when the Secretary-General deemed that sufficient funds had been pledged to provide a reasonable prospect of continuity for the fund's operation.

In accord with our interest in encouraging agricultural production in the developing countries, Canada will participate in the exploratory discussions on forming a Consultative Group on Food Production and Investment as proposed by the World Food Conference. This Consultative group, under the auspices of the World Bank, the United Nations Development Program, and the FAO and modelled along the lines of the existing Consultative Group on International Research, would improve coordination among multilateral and bilateral donors in technical and financial assistance, establish priorities in agricultural production, and mobilize increased resources for agricultural production in the developing nations.