

of jurisdictions.

In spite of this progress, a central blocking element to the coherence approach lies in the World Bank's resistance to the core labour right of freedom of association and the right to free collective bargaining. Resistance within the Bank to this objective needs to be addressed. In particular, the assertion that such concerns are "political" and must be on the mandate of the Bank need to be squarely confronted and, in my view, rejected.

Relationships with the WTO are, essentially, non-existent. This is the greatest hurdle of all to the coherence agenda. As noted above, the WTO actually does constrain ILO members, and perhaps even the ILO under Article 33 of its Constitution (although surely this is highly problematic) in pursuing sanctions, even in cases such as Burma. This simultaneous claiming and rejecting of jurisdiction over core labour rights is one of the greatest thorns in the coherence approach. More than anything this element alone, generates a great deal of hostility to the project of economic integration.

(f) Canada and the ILO - Financial Contributions

Canada is reported to contribute approximately \$10 million per annum to the ILO and in addition has traditionally expended considerable domestic resources in Geneva and elsewhere in contributing to its deliberations and internal operations. Moreover, Canada has recently made significant multi-year contributions reported to be in the order of \$15 million to the ILO's International Programme for the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC). From the point of view of the coherence agenda, the IPEC programme is a model of the integrated, as opposed to the isolated and sanctions based, approach. Although much appreciated in internal policy circles, the significance of the IPEC approach lies in its potential to demonstrate, in concrete terms, the soundness of the coherence agenda. As such it represents the sort of excellent investment opportunities needed for those pursuing the coherence regime to demonstrate their case in concrete terms.

2. Canadian Policy in the Americas

There is no need to think that the "coherence" agenda requires or dictates a single approach at the multilateral (ILO) level alone. Initiatives, outlined above, in the Americas which are regional and bilateral can and do provide additional laboratories for experimentation with the coherence agenda.

The strategy adopted in the NAALC and in the Chile and Costa Rican agreements seems at first blush, completely and radically different from than the strategy adopted within the ILO. The ILO issues supranational laws while the agreements within the Americas simply aim at enforcement of domestic law. But this difference can be overstated. The strategy in the Americas respects the sovereignty of each party and respects the reality that the actual instantiations of any particular labour policy will be deeply influenced by local history, social, cultural, economic, legal factors. This is obvious, for example, when one compares the freedom of association and collective bargaining regimes of just the OECD nations, let alone