

Bank and the Inter-American Institute of Agricultural Sciences. Members who heard the President of Mexico address the joint session of Parliament last month will know that useful progress has been made in the strengthening of our relations with Mexico.

Senior officials of the Commonwealth met in Ottawa in October to discuss and prepare two subjects for consideration at the forthcoming Heads of Government Meeting in Ottawa. The subjects were "Comparative Techniques of Government", suggested by the Prime Minister at the last Heads of Government Meeting in Singapore, and "means by which the agenda and general procedures might best restore flexibility and informality to future heads of government meetings".

Participation in *francophone* activities has also been active with programs of the Agence de Coopération culturelle et technique developing steadily. An example on Canadian soil was the meeting of scientific experts which was organized by the Agency in Ottawa in October to recommend the establishment of a network of exchanges of scientific information among *francophone* countries.

Canada's deep interest in environmental problems expressed itself in the active and fruitful participation of a delegation consisting of representatives from federal and provincial governments and non-governmental organizations in the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment held in Stockholm in June. This was undoubtedly one of the most significant conferences in United Nations history and Canada's contribution to its success has been given full international recognition. The proclamation of the Declaration on the Human Environment and the adoption of a United Nations action plan are of vital concern and embody many Canadian proposals to protect and enhance the quality of the environment. Principles were developed which lay a basis for a legal regime for the prevention of marine pollution and the preservation of the marine environment.

Another example of Canada's active concern in this area was the meeting last month in Ottawa of the NATO Committee on the Challenges of Modern Society -- the first such meeting to be held away from NATO headquarters. The environmental experts and policy-makers from NATO countries who attended this meeting judged it a considerable success.

Among other noteworthy Canadian contributions is the offer, since accepted by the United Nations General Assembly, to host a major United Nations Conference/Exposition on Human Settlements in Vancouver during 1976.

In November 1972, an intergovernmental meeting was convened in London pursuant to a Stockholm recommendation to elaborate a convention on the prevention of marine pollution by the dumping of wastes at sea. Canada played a leading role in the preparation of this convention, which provides effective controls for the prevention of pollution from this source both in environmental and jurisdictional terms. Canada has signed the convention and is considering early ratification of it.

Canada is heavily involved in preparations for the Third Law of the Sea Conference. The major Canadian objective involves a significant revision of the law of the sea, in particular the development of new legal regimes for the effective management and exploitation of ocean resources by coastal states,