

The process of enhancing political relations has already begun. The Prime Minister and other Canadian ministers together have visited almost every country of Latin America. Leaders from most of those countries have visited Canada. Canada and Mexico have established a range of important agreements regarding energy supply, agricultural sales, trade, industrial cooperation, tourism, cultural exchanges and political consultations. With Brazil and Venezuela, we have established formal mechanisms of regular political consultation and concluded agreements on various forms of trade and industrial cooperation with these countries as well as with Argentina, Ecuador and Cuba. We will have increased our economic assistance to the Commonwealth Caribbean, Haiti, the Dominican Republic and the countries of Central America to an amount of about one-half billion dollars by 1987. Another \$150 million has been dedicated to programmes in Colombia and Peru as well as lesser amounts to Bolivia, Brazil and Ecuador. We have strengthened our diplomatic representation in Latin America generally, re-opened an Embassy in Ecuador, appointed a resident ambassador to Guatemala and upgraded our consulates in Rio de Janeiro and Sao Paulo to Consulates-General. We have also developed Parliamentary exchanges with Brazil and Mexico. Indeed, just last week, we hosted a meeting of the Mexico-Canada Interparliamentary Group.