

The two Co-Chairmen of the Conference have a particularly sensitive role to play. Although all participants in the Conference on International Economic Cooperation are prepared to approach issues in a positive and cooperative manner, there is a broad range of differing national interests and philosophies among the developed, developing and OPEC members of the Conference. To a degree, it was this very diversity of interests and the consequent difficulty of providing leadership equally responsive to both the Group of 8 -- the developed members -- and the Group of 19 -- the developing members -- which led to the choice of two Co-Chairmen as a technique for organizing the Conference. This co-direction of the Conference is symbolic of the determination of the member countries to work together and to accept shared responsibility for the results. Just as Dr. Perez Guerrero and I have a certain responsibility for ensuring that the work of the Conference proceeds in an orderly and constructive manner so the Co-Chairmen of the Commissions have a responsibility for guiding the work of their Commissions so that they achieve results which are broadly acceptable to the international community, including those countries which are not members of the Conference. I have, of course, been working very closely with Dr. Perez Guerrero to achieve that goal, and I am sure that the Co-Chairmen of the Commissions will also work as a team.