
Mexico is a member of the Organization of American States and a party to the Rio Treaty. Canada is a member of the Commonwealth, of l'Agence de Coopération culturelle et technique and of NATO. Mexico belongs to SELA (Latin American Economic System), Canada to the OECD (Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development). Our two countries find increasing opportunities for co-operation and joint consultation in the organs and agencies of the United Nations, and also in many inter-American agencies and bodies in which we exchange technical experience and combine efforts in support of development.

I mentioned trade, Mr. President. I know that you welcome as much as I do the dramatic increase in trade between our two countries in the past few years. Although Canada first dispatched a permanent trade commissioner to Mexico in 1905, and despite the fact that a Mexico-Canada trade agreement was signed in 1946 providing for most-favoured-nation treatment, our bilateral trade in 1970 had only reached the level of some \$150 million. The preliminary figures for 1975 indicate that trade will have increased to \$300 million, an increase, in percentage terms, of 100 per cent. And Canadian investment continues to flow here in increasing amounts. This Canadian trade and this Canadian investment are contributing, you told me in Ottawa in 1973, Mr. President, to Mexico's laudatory economic growth and to diminishing Mexico's previous heavy reliance on a single economic partner. And, of course, the 200,000 Canadians that your Government estimates visited Mexico last year contributed not only to your tourist industry but to a deeper understanding and knowledge of Mexico by Canadians. The discovery of your art and architecture, your advances in the sciences of archaeology and museology, are providing inspiration and stimulation to our artists. Significantly, it is through you that Canada and Canadians have often first been introduced to the human and cultural diversity of Latin America.

These are healthy trends, and I am confident they will continue. It is the policy of the Canadian Government to encourage Canadians increasingly to play an active, responsible role in the international community. Mexico is one of the principal countries with which we hope to strengthen and expand our relations. We shall attempt to pursue this course on a basis of mutual respect and of understanding for the sensitivities and genius of the people of each country. These are basic ingredients guiding the policies of Canada's International Development Research Centre, for example. That Centre is funded by the Canadian Government but operates under the direction of an international board of directors. It is engaged in a wide variety of developmental research projects in Central and South America. These range from activities in agriculture and nutrition to population and the health sciences. At the present moment, pro-
