

advice, in Canada, because of the patriotism of our Olympic committee, we were able to succeed in having them follow our national policy objectives and in boycotting the Olympic Games. In that and in our influence on a number of the other of the 80 countries which eventually boycotted the games, we succeeded partially, but we didn't succeed as well as we should have or as well as we would have wished to.

But I noted at the NATO meetings in December that I attended in Brussels that there was, after a year of our urgings and after a year of crises, a kind of consensus emerging that we simply had to join in crisis management in the West and that this could not be left to happenstance. That meeting to me was an indication of the fact that our foreign policy is beginning to bear fruit.

Of course, with respect to our other great initiative in that area, the North-South dialogue, the Prime Minister's contribution to that has been certainly manifested in recent days in his attempt to persuade some countries of the South, some countries of the North and some which, while belonging to the South — like the oil producing countries — are in a sense in a special category, belonging neither to the North nor the South.

We're pursuing this, with a view to the Economic Summit in Ottawa in July, with a view to the expected conference of nations on North-South questions in Mexico, and with a view to the Commonwealth Conference in Melbourne in September.

I might add that the greatest delight that I've had, as Secretary of State for External Affairs, has been in being able to announce at the United Nations in September that Canada would increase its foreign aid, that we would meet a target of .5 per cent of gross national product by the middle of the decade and .7 per cent by the end of the decade. We are indeed providing leadership within the tradition with respect to internationalism.

But the world is multi-dimensional, not one-dimensional and our foreign policy must be too. It's not enough for us to be the world's leading internationalists, though we must not lose that distinction. Side by side with our internationalism, we must also emphasize a policy of bilateralism which will directly serve our national interests.

New policy

If I may be personal for a moment, I came to office — and in fact I remain — a convinced world federalist, one who believes in internationalism and world institutions. But I wasn't in office very long before it became apparent that we also had to organize ourselves to deal with a highly competitive world in the area, especially, of commercial relations. And, as a result of studies which have been commissioned and carried out and now, as the result of a Cabinet decision, I'm able to announce today a new policy of bilateralism on the part of Canada.

Few objectives in the foreign policy field can be achieved without lengthy and persistent efforts. Canada must be prepared to concentrate its resources to achieve the necessary political relationships with key countries, deploying in a selective manner all political instruments of the state including visits at the highest level. Such instruments can include trade policy, access to Canadian resources, contractual links