

fulfillment of basic human needs for all. Programmes such as universal subsidized medical care, child support and unemployment insurance are examples of solidly established Canadian benefits.

Canadians have, by tradition, a strong sense of obligation to help improve economic and social conditions in less fortunate parts of the world. From a modest contribution to the United Nations Technical Assistance Programme in 1949, Canada's development assistance programmes have expanded to cover all continents and a broad range of international institutions. To date, Canada has provided a total of \$24 billion in official development assistance. The major portion of that has been directed at the poorest countries and people.

The Canadian development assistance effort extends well beyond the provision of grants. Efforts to seek a more open trading environment and acceptable arrangements on international debt constitute an integral element of Canada's relations with the developing world. Finally, Canadians in the private sector, from individuals and non-profit organizations to businesses, all contribute in various ways to development in the third world. Since 1980, Canada has disbursed more than 100 million dollars under its industrial cooperation programme which focuses on joint ventures in, and the transfer of technology to, the third world, particularly its private sector.

The control and reduction of armaments - both conventional and nuclear weapons - constitute a major Canadian foreign policy objective. We participate in all multilateral forums where arms control issues are considered and engage in a wide range of bilateral consultations and discussions. We have established specific priorities in the pursuit of this important goal. A major priority is the development of confidence-building measures such as the improvement of the technology and methodology of verification of arms limitations or reductions.

Mr. President, I strongly urge my fellow delegations at this conference to work towards the adoption of a consensus document. We agree on the goals, though not yet on the means. To dwell on our differences is to doom this conference. The four preparatory meetings - particularly the 19 elements and 10-point action programme agreed to at the third preparatory meeting - show that a fair and reasonable balance of views can be reached. To compromise on details is to protect the principle that more money must be spent on development, less on arms.