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the 1980s are, for a variety of reasons, also for a relatively slow pace of economic growth. Between these extremes, however, lie countries whose growth has been much more rapid, and who, in spite of immense problems, are likely to maintain a faster pace in the future.

This is a brief outline of what has been happening in the past and what is likely to occur in the years ahead. And yet the international discussions of such matters do not take account of these realities. Of particular concern to me is the increasing note of pessimism that seems to be creeping into the North-South dialogue: the contention that nothing has changed for the better anywhere and is unlikely to in the future; the spirit of confrontation between North and South with verbal barrages across an artificial frontier; the allocation of blame for misfortune, not the search for self-improvement.

If there is one message I would like to leave clearly with my colleagues from North or South, it is that such approaches to our problems, and such tactics, are likely to be counterproductive — I can tell you, they do much more harm than good in Canada. In Canada we have spent a lot of time and effort and money in developing programs of economic co-operation, and always with the support of the Canadian people. No democratic government can act without such popular support. I am confident that this support remains and that we can continue to improve our programs and adapt our policies to the changing international environment. At present, however, we face important domestic problems within Canada. One of them, the energy issue, we share with many nations. I assure you, we are determined to become part of the solution, not part of the problem. But the efforts our people will be called on to make to help solve this world-wide problem will be great. As a result, now more than ever, we need to be able to demonstrate that our overseas programs are useful and efficient and actually do contribute to the welfare of peoples who need assistance. If we hear through the North-South dialogue that after 30 years of effort nothing has changed for the better, that doom and gloom lie in the future, and that our lack of political will is entirely to blame, I am afraid that the reaction of the Canadian people will be to demand that we spend our effort and money at home. By all means let us pinpoint the failures, but let us build on success. By all means let us define our problems closely, but let us develop realistic responses. By all means let us be frank with each other, but let us maintain a constructive courtesy. Talk, certainly; but act, too. Let us indulge in technical analysis, but let us never forget that it is the individual we are trying to help.

Immense tasks lie before us as we grapple with all the issues now on the negotiating table within the UN system. The desperate plight of the people of Kampuchea, for example, cries for immediate international attention. Our ability to act effectively in this regard will be a measure of the sincerity of our commitment to the ideals we have all endorsed. My confidence in our ability to find solutions is based in part on the growing recognition of all countries that interdependence is a fact and not a slogan, and in part on the knowledge that we must all work together if we are not to fail separately.

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