

receiving Canadian assistance has grown from 43 to 65 as more nations have become eligible particularly in Francophone Africa. Since 1963 the allocations for the French-speaking states of Africa have increased twenty-five fold. For the first time, Canada has undertaken development assistance to Latin America on a bilateral basis by earmarking \$20 million as development loans for exclusive use in that area. More recently Canada has taken new aid initiatives in South and Southeast Asia, including an initial subscription of \$25 million to the Asian Development Bank.

I referred earlier to aid programmes serving national foreign policy objectives. Our programmes are, of course, related very closely to political and cultural interests in the Commonwealth and in the French speaking nations. They are related very closely to other types of Canadian activities, and to the expansion of Canadian missions. They have indeed provided a new dimension for a large part of what we do to extend Canadian interests and to play a worthy part in the world community.

There are other fields in which world trends and national interest coincide to develop new areas of activity both for diplomats and for specialists in those areas. I refer to cultural relations and to information work abroad. There is a basic world interest in promoting understanding among nations, by cultural, educational and scientific means and by a free exchange of information. There is a national interest in using these means of contact to support broad political objectives.

Many public bodies which, under the Canadian system, have cultural and information functions outside of Canada, such as the National Film Board, the International Service of the Canadian Broadcasting Corp., the National Gallery, and the Canada Council all contribute to the conception which other countries have of Canada. It is in Canada's interests therefore that the activities of these organizations in the foreign field be related in a broad