

13. In the field of technical assistance, Canada has had for a few years now an on-going and increasing program of cooperation with several Latin American countries, concentrated in the fields of agriculture, fisheries and forestry, education, community development and public administration. We value the opportunities that CIAP provides for consultation and coordination of these activities; we believe that these procedures can be improved and lead to further progress.

14. Science and technology is an area of particular interest to Canada in its relations with the rest of the Hemisphere. On the one hand, Canada has been, like Latin America, dependent on external sources for much of the research and technology that has contributed to our development. On the other hand, Canada possesses know-how and experience in a wide range of scientific fields that can undoubtedly be of use and interest to Latin America.

15. These examples are enough to demonstrate that there are many possibilities of enhanced cooperation between Latin America and Canada. We would welcome any steps that will lend substance to these possibilities.

16. I have already indicated our uneasiness in Canada about some of the trends toward polarization rather than cooperation in the inter-American community. On the positive side, we have noted the dynamic changes and the increasing pluralism in the Latin American countries evolving in so many different political, economic, social and cultural configurations. They present this Organization with stimulating opportunities and a great challenge.

17. In the hope and expectation that the outcome will be positive, progressive and relevant to our common interests, we look forward to exploring over the next months the possibilities of strengthening Canada's contribution to the concept of the development and social progress of all the people of the Hemisphere.