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Prime Minister Trudeau co-chairs North-South Summit in Cancun

Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau attended the North-South Summit in Cancun, October 21-23, where in view of Austrian Chancellor Kreisky's illness, he was unanimously asked to act along with Mexican President José Lopez Portillo as co-chairman of the meeting.

The conference on global economic problems and international co-operation was attended by 22 leaders representing 2.8 billion people — 64 per cent of the world's population — and almost three-quarters of its wealth. The participants came from countries where the *per capita* gross national product — which approximates *per capita* income — ranged from \$90 in Bangladesh to more than \$10,000 in Sweden, West Germany and the United States. The populations of countries represented varied from fewer than one million in Guyana to about one billion in China. The meeting was attended by the heads of state of 14 developing nations and eight industrialized countries. The Soviet Union had decided not to participate.

year by Mexico and Austria on the basis of a Brandt Report proposal to provide a forum for world leaders to discuss poverty and underdevelopment and to give political impetus to the search for remedies.

At the final preparatory meeting for the Summit in August, it was agreed that the Summit would be political in character, open and informal and non-negotiating, while having no formal link to global negotiations, moreover, one of the main objectives would be to facilitate agreement on them.

In his opening statement to the Summit, Mr. Trudeau stressed the importance of achieving a greater degree of mutual understanding and of establishing joint international priorities for co-operation. He reiterated Canada's support for the proposed United Nations global negotiations and noted that the Canadian government was "open-minded as to the shape or form of such a mechanism". Mr. Trudeau said that it was important that provision be made for the discussion of global issues on a global basis.

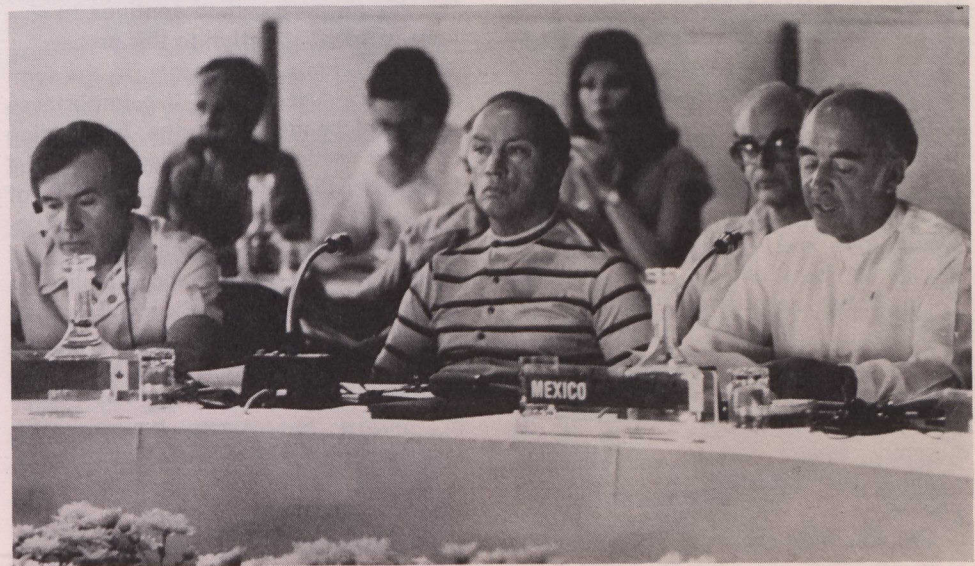
During their working sessions delegates to the conference discussed world poverty

Mexico and Austria call for meeting
The Cancun conference was initiated last

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Prime Minister Trudeau (centre) is flanked by Mexican President Lopez Portillo (left) and Secretary of State for External Affairs MacGuigan at Cancun meeting.