

of the programme is now key.

There are some indications that the OPEC could be responsive to some form of increased producer-consumer contact through the International Energy Agency. This is an option worth investigating.

It also seems likely that follow-up on energy issues will be discussed at the resumed UNGA this autumn. There are two kinds of risks inherent in increased energy activity in the UN system. A number of existing specialized agencies, already involved in energy work, may attempt to increase this dimension to the point of fragmentation, more cost and less effectiveness. There is the IAEA, whose safeguards capabilities Canada would not wish to see diminished or diluted. UNIDO, the UN Centre for Natural Resources and even UNESCO, which has been providing technical assistance in energy for some years, also come to mind. It might therefore be desirable to centralize UN energy activities in a single institution, but we must carefully consider whether we want an entirely new specialized agency for energy. I think that our common efforts at this stage should be concentrated on avoiding either of these extremes.

Energy supply/demand/price issues could also be reviewed in a limited membership international forum, such as the World Bank. Perhaps the Energy Consultative Group idea investigated by the industrialized countries at the CIEC could be further explored in connection with the Bank's future increased energy development investment agreed in the CIEC. The possible involvement of the developing countries, including of course OPEC, in the energy research and development activities of the IEA may present a similar opportunity. To our mind these types of operation have more appeal.

Next, on the future focus for assistance to development. The developing countries in the CIEC reaffirmed their primary responsibility for promoting their own development. We achieved rather less success however in mobilizing support for the idea of meeting basic human needs. We must ensure that the benefits of development - indeed the focus of development assistance programmes - should be concentrated to an increasing extent on the poorest sectors of the developing countries. It is now Canadian policy to direct our assistance to programmes which will benefit the poorest countries and within these countries the most disadvantaged. I know that many other countries around this table share this objective. We might well direct our common energies to an effort to secure wider allegiance to this principle, especially among the developing countries. We might also evaluate together the types and quality of programmes which have best served this need.

On the matter of our general relations with the developing countries, I believe that our Secretary General has usefully