

four Partners in transition. We also recognize the active involvement of Korea in OECD activities which will pave its way toward membership in the near future.

Membership, however, is not the only means of action. The OECD's value to us, its members, is also enhanced by non-member participation in the work of our subsidiary bodies. When a country is a major player in a given sector, we can both learn from working together. This contributes to broader international co-operation.

Another element of the OECD's response to this evolving world is its co-operation with economies in transition. Progress varies for each of these countries and our manner of dealing with each should also vary. We should develop more flexible, responsive approaches to adapt to each situation. Canada supports the Japanese proposal to extend the list of countries that might be accommodated within the program of the Centre for Co-operation with Economies in Transition.

The declaration of co-operation with Russia, which we will be signing later today, underscores the OECD's distinct role. The Organization's efforts should support and complement those of other international financial institutions.

Dialogue is another vehicle used by the OECD to follow developments in the economies of non-members and to influence the evolution of their economic policies. But dialogue is not an end in itself. The OECD's dialogue should be targeted at countries most likely to influence our economies and should be focussed on our priorities, based on a review of our experience to date and our assessment of our future interests.

Our ad hoc approach to change may have produced acceptable results in the past, however, the pace of change and the need for the OECD to develop a global perspective calls for a more considered and coherent approach to our dealings with non-members. I propose that we task the Organization, with the active participation of capitals, to develop such an approach and to report back to us at next year's ministerial meeting.