

- We favour the provision of information and expertise to developing countries on the means whereby host countries can identify and articulate their national priorities concerning transnational corporations;
- We are prepared to make available our own experience in the establishment of screening mechanisms, statistical methods, and techniques of taxation. We support international efforts to enable developing countries to assess their own interests more clearly and to negotiate effectively the terms of the entry of transnational corporations in a manner consistent with their national goals.

The Commonwealth Expert Group's Report

Mr. President, Canada has stressed the need for concrete measures to assist developing countries to play a much greater role in sharing the world's wealth and resources. In the past four months we have been involved in productive discussion with our partners in the Commonwealth on practical measures that contribute to closing the gap between developed and developing countries.

The Report entitled "Towards New International Economic Order" prepared by a Commonwealth Group of Experts on the instructions of the Commonwealth Heads of Government is now available to members of this Assembly. Last week at the Commonwealth Finance Ministers' Meeting in Georgetown, Commonwealth countries, and I quote from the communiqué "gave general endorsement to the Report and agreed that the early implementation of these proposals would constitute a first step towards achieving the progressive removal of the wide disparities of wealth now existing between different sections of mankind". The Report does not represent the full answer to our problems. Certain of its recommendations present a challenge to existing Canadian policy. Its value is, however, in its practical nature and the high degree of consensus which exists on its provisions, a consensus which extends to countries from all six continents. We believe the Report can provide an aid to the conduct of negotiations and to the national formulation of policy with the ultimate aim of closing the gap in living standards between developed and developing countries. I commend its practical approach and its emphasis on concrete measures to this Assembly.