

state of virtual non-development of much of this vast continent. But it also reflects the special kinship Canadians have with both Commonwealth and *francophone* countries. The development-assistance budget for Commonwealth Africa amounts to some \$102 million. The budget for *francophone* Africa is slightly more than \$105 million, as several French-speaking countries lie in the Sahelian belt and have been severely hit by recent droughts and famines.

Need I remind the Committee that we are not assisting these countries primarily because they have adopted English or French as their official language, but because they are so very poor? Recent *per capita* GNP figures speak more eloquently than, certainly, my prose -- \$89 in Niger, \$230 in Nigeria, \$166 in Cameroon, \$155 in Kenya, and \$201 in Senegal.

Some of you may be tempted to question the amounts allocated in 1975-76 to other geographical areas such as the Caribbean (\$41.9 million) and Latin America (\$48 million), where income levels, while extremely low by Canadian standards, are somewhat higher than in the rest of the developing world. But, even when the countries involved have begun to generate most of the financial resources required for sustained economic growth, which is not always the case, they still need, and will need for quite some time, technical assistance from Canada and other industrialized countries.

Actually, these and other countries such as Algeria have reached a transitional stage. Canada, therefore, must transform its economic relationship with them from one centred on development-assistance to one focused on industrial co-operation. But this shift cannot be accomplished overnight, and too brutal a weaning from CIDA's programs could well jeopardize the maturing of mutually-beneficial economic relations. CIDA-watchers should not confuse altruism with self-abnegation.

Finally, there will always occur disasters and natural catastrophes. It is quite obvious from the letters I get each time a cyclone or a flood afflicts a developing country that Canadians wish their Government to provide relief promptly and efficiently. CIDA's emergency program is already substantial, but we wish to do more. Consequently the Government is reviewing its planning and machinery in this field.

lateral programs

A word about multilateral programs. The choice of which development-oriented multilateral institutions receive Canadian assistance is, as in the case of the choice of countries receiving bilateral aid, a combination of various factors. In this case they are chiefly historical and political. There is, however, also the