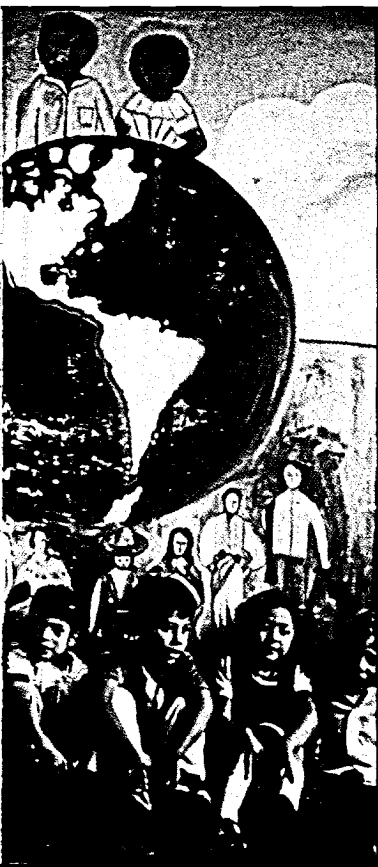


Action Program for the hemisphere. The RCMP co-hosts with CICAD an annual training seminar on drugs for police officials of hemispheric countries. Canada is a strong supporter of CICAD's anti-narcotics activities and has provided substantial financial support.

Technical Assistance:

Financial and technical assistance in support of the social, economic and cultural development activities of the Organization are an integral element of membership. Canada provides an annual contribution to the OAS Voluntary Fund as well as support for specific projects. Areas of priority for this supplementary support include women, the environment and distance education.

Canada, a member since 1971, is the second largest contributor to the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO). In 1992, \$8.5 million was provided of which \$1.5 million was for humanitarian assistance to Haiti. Since 1972, Canada has been a member of the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation in Agriculture (IICA). From 1987 to 1992, it funded a \$4.5 million agricultural cooperation project with the Centre for Tropical Agriculture, Teaching and Research (CATIE).



V. OUTLOOK

Since Canada joined in 1990, there have been promising changes within the OAS. The most important of these relate mainly to a new overall attitude. It is clear that there now exists the political will to take on challenges that, in the past, tended to be avoided or ignored. Two areas where this is most notable fit in squarely with Canada's priorities: these are the staunch defence of human rights and the commitment to democratic forms of government. The willingness of member governments to stand up and be counted where these principles are at stake, and to take concerted action, points to a new level of awareness and concern about these fundamental principles.

Because of these and other positive developments, Canada has found

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