

deserve. In particular, I join with other DAC members in urging the United States to meet its commitments to IDA 6 and to work towards negotiating an adequate seventh replenishment.

We are now also on the eve of the major North-South meeting of 1983 - UNCTAD VI - and it is my hope that this important meeting in Belgrade will foster a constructive debate on the problems of the world economy. I therefore hope that this OECD Ministerial meeting, and also the Williamsburg Summit, will be able to send a signal to the G-77 of our willingness to enter into such a debate. Our signal should, in my view, strive to enhance confidence in the ability of the existing international institutions to meet, and to adapt to meet, the needs of the entire international community. Canada stands ready to pursue in UNCTAD and other appropriate fora, practical proposals to current problems, and to consider on their merits specific proposals put forward by developing countries.

The OECD Secretariat is to be congratulated on its work on Interdependence. This work, carried out under the aegis of the North-South group, has provided us with valuable insights as well as a useful vehicle for debating the key issues confronting both North and South. I would urge the Secretary-General to continue this work over the coming year, as we collectively assess the results of UNCTAD VI and the evolving North-South dialogue.

Economic recovery strengthens our ability to contain protectionist measures, and progressively to relax barriers restricting trade, particularly those erected during the recession, as individual economies find room for growth to make this possible. We are committed to early and effective implementation of the GATT work programme set out in the Ministerial Declaration of last November. We draw little comfort from the progress thus far.

There will be little difficulty developing customary rhetorical commitments to combat protectionist measures. I would hope however that we can move beyond pronouncements and act, individually and collectively, in a manner which demonstrates a clear political will to resist and where possible reduce protectionist measures. As a matter of priority OECD countries should seek to resolve issues dividing them. Only in this way can we expect to establish a standard of performance which will restore credibility to the trading system and provide a healthy basis for a trade-expansionary recovery offering benefits to all trading countries.