

SIGNIFICANT TO US. AND THEY UNDERLINE ANOTHER IMPORTANT, INDEED VITAL, LINK WHICH WE MAINTAIN WITH YOUR GOVERNMENTS - THE PROVISION OF CONSULAR SERVICES TO CANADIANS IN YOUR MIDST. BUT THE FLOW IS NOT ONE WAY. 250,000 OF YOUR TOURISTS, BUSINESSMEN AND STUDENTS VISITED US LAST YEAR. WE ENCOURAGE IMMIGRATION TO OUR SHORES AND WE ARE PROUD TO HAVE ALMOST ONE MILLION FIRST AND SECOND GENERATION IMMIGRANTS FROM THE REGION. ONE OF THEM, THE SON OF JAMAICAN IMMIGRANTS, IS LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR OF ONTARIO, OUR LARGEST PROVINCE. ALL OF THEM, FROM WHATEVER COUNTRY IN THE REGION, PLAY A FULL PART IN CANADA'S DEVELOPMENT.

I TURN NOW FROM THE MAIN THEMES WHICH INFLUENCE OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS WITH COUNTRIES OF THE REGION TO CANADA'S RELATIONS WITH THIS HEMISPHERE'S HISTORIC AND IMPORTANT CONSULTATIVE BODY, THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES. I HAVE TWO THINGS TO SAY ON THIS MATTER. FIRSTLY, CANADA IS AN UNAMBIGUOUS SUPPORTER OF THE IDEALS AND OBJECTIVES ESPOUSED BY THE OAS. WE PRIDE OURSELVES ON BEING ATTENTIVE OBSERVERS OF THIS IMPORTANT FORUM. WE ARE ALSO ACTIVE FULL MEMBERS OF SEVERAL SUBSIDIARY ORGANIZATIONS, NOTABLY THE PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION, THE INTER-AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR COOPERATION ON AGRICULTURE, THE PAN AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF GEOGRAPHY AND HISTORY AND THE INTER-AMERICAN TELECOMMUNICATIONS