

market. In order to develop the proper strategy we need to hear from Parliamentarians and Canadians.

However, Foreign Affairs must not only be concerned with international trade issues, but also with political, social and economic matters. During the election campaign the Prime Minister clearly enunciated his vision of creating a stronger more independent role for Canada on the international scene. The Prime Minister stated his belief in a government that reinforced Canada's reputation for tolerance and openness, one with a common-sense approach to ensure our values are reflected in all aspects of our foreign policy. The Minister of Foreign Affairs is working hard to make that vision a reality. I am very pleased to have the chance to assist him in this regard.

One important aspect of the relationship Canada has with many of the nations of the Asia-Pacific region is in the area of development. It was not too long ago that the relationship between trade, aid and development was viewed by many as non-existent. Yet, there are many facets to Canada's development program. First, assisting societies in meeting their citizen's basic human needs has been a pillar of Canada's international involvement. However, development assistance is much more than that. The environment, building peace and security, good governance, the promotion of human rights, and racial and gender equality are also development issues.

Development assistance has been particularly effective in fostering the development of the countries of the Asia-Pacific region. In light of the progress achieved, Canadian development priorities have shifted from isolated project planning to broader policy interventions, intended to involve Canadians in co-operation for sustainable development in the region.

The Canadian International Development Agency's strategy for the Asia-Pacific region has five broad priorities: strengthening the institutional capacity in support of sustainable development; co-operating in resolving national, regional and global environmental problems; promoting co-operation between the private sectors in Canada and the Asia-Pacific region; fostering institutional linkages and networks; and encouraging respect for human rights and promoting good governance.

As these five priorities clearly demonstrate, the social, economic and political aspects of foreign policy are related and we as a nation will only benefit from an integrated approach. Just last week, I saw these five priorities in action during my visit to Bangladesh and Cambodia. Then again, when I led the Canadian delegation to the ICORC meeting in Tokyo. ICORC stands for the International Committee on the Reconstruction of Cambodia. My main interests were to promote our bilateral relationships with Bangladesh and Cambodia, and to observe first-