

been very effective. With an assist from President Nixon last August 15th we have been able to convince our friends in Western Europe that Canada does not live wholly in the shade of the American umbrella but has its own part to play in the world in economic and political terms equally.

The Protocol on Consultations and the Scientific and Technological Exchanges Agreement with the Soviet Union are already bearing fruit. Consultation with the Soviet Union at official and ministerial levels is now more frequent than previously, covers a wider range of subject matter and is carried on in a much improved atmosphere. Six commissions specializing in various areas have been set up under the Scientific and Technological Exchanges Agreement.

Members will be aware that, although Canada did not lobby to bring the Peking Government into the China seat at the United Nations, the Canadian position on this question was of considerable, if not indeed crucial, importance in bringing about a result that has attracted close to universal commendation. Our relations with China are developing to the advantage of both countries and the coming year will see exchanges of expert, official and ministerial visits. An exclusively Canadian trade fair -- the so-called "Solo" fair will be held in Peking in August, and China will participate at the Canadian National Exhibition in Toronto and "Man and His World" in Montreal.

The past year has seen the anguished birth of the new nation of Bangladesh. Canada is joining with others in contributing to the relief and rehabilitation of the area, while maintaining our existing close contacts with Pakistan.

The year's list of successful negotiations on the law of the sea and related questions is impressive. We are on the verge of concluding an important series of agreements designed to end certain traditional foreign fishing rights in our territorial sea and fishing zones. Agreements with Norway on sealing and fishing are already in force; fisheries agreements with Britain, Denmark, France and Portugal virtually completed; and an agreement with Spain in prospect. The Canadian and Danish Governments have before them the text of an agreement delimiting the continental shelf between the Canadian Arctic islands and Greenland. Negotiations for delimiting the shelf adjacent to French and United States territory should begin soon.

In the United Nations, Canada is heavily involved in preparations for the 1973 Law of the Sea Conference. Our objective is international recognition of the right of coastal states to manage the fisheries adjacent to their coasts and to reserve a preferential share of the harvest. We are similarly involved in preparations for the 1973 Conference on Marine Pollution. Our objective there will