

the dimensions of the problem. Experts in the field believe that the oil remaining to be produced is equivalent to at least five times as much as has been produced thus far in the world. And so the problem is not that the world is rapidly running out of oil; the problem is that we are running out of easily accessible and easily extractable oil. From now on, an ever larger proportion of the oil we use will come from fields where development and production costs will be much higher. We will, for example, require the application of relatively costly secondary and tertiary recovery techniques. In addition, much of the oil will come from areas which are presently remote or from under the ocean where difficulty of access will push up production costs.

I think it is also true that in the coming decades increased oil production will not be sufficient to meet our energy needs. We will have to learn to use energy much more efficiently and to rely proportionally less on oil. Canada's National Energy Programme, which my Cabinet colleagues will discuss with you during the conference, is designed to achieve this objective at home. Internationally, for the remainder of this century the industrialized countries must rely increasingly on natural gas, thermal coal and electricity generated both by conventional hydro and nuclear reactors. In the latter part of this century, and into the next, new and renewable energy technologies such as bio-mass, geo-thermal and tidal power should make a large contribution to meeting our energy needs.

But this transition will not be easy. We know from experience that the lead times for developing and using new resources and technologies are long. We know, also, that the capital investment requirements are massive. In Canada alone, during the present decade, more than \$250 billion in energy investment will likely be needed.

There is growing international recognition that planned and far-sighted cooperation is essential. A number of steps have already been taken in this direction. The International Energy Agency (IEA), which was created in 1974, is an important forum for steadily increasing cooperation among most industrialized countries. In recent years, in the Economic Summit meetings, leaders of industrialized countries increasingly have turned their attention to energy problems and goals. At the Venice Summit last year, for example, the participants agreed to an elaborate programme of measures for the long-term restructuring of our energy economies, and a high-level group has established to monitor programmes over the coming decades.