

4.6.2.7 Canada and the Commonwealth Caribbean

The current phase of Canadian relations with the Commonwealth Caribbean dates from the Commonwealth Caribbean - Canada Conference of 1966, which established the broad guidelines for developing relations between the two areas. Considerable progress has been made in implementing the recommendations agreed to at that Conference. As part of the continuing process of consultation, a special Canadian Mission to the Commonwealth Caribbean in the fall of 1970 visited 13 countries and territories to discuss specific matters of common interest.

In 1971, Canadian investment in the region was estimated at between \$450 and \$550 million. In the preceding five years more than \$100 million was allocated to the Commonwealth Caribbean under Canadian development assistance programs. More than 3,000 Canadians live as permanent residents in the region and about 175,000 visit the islands annually. During 1971, more than 12,000 West Indians immigrated to Canada. There are Canadian High Commissions in Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago, and Guyana, and these three countries, as well as Barbados, maintain High Commissions in Ottawa. There is also a Commissioner for the Eastern Caribbean in Montreal who represents the six West Indies Associated States (Antigua, Dominica, Grenada, St. Kitts - Nevis - Anguilla, St. Lucia and St. Vincent) and Montserrat.

4.6.2.8 Canada and Latin America

Canada maintains diplomatic relations with all Latin American republics through 14 resident diplomatic or consular missions. As envisaged in the foreign policy paper on Latin America published in 1970, substantial progress has been made in developing and intensifying relations with these countries and with inter-American institutions.

In 1972, Canada became one of the first nations to be accredited as a Permanent Observer of the Organization of American States (OAS); a Canadian Permanent Observer Mission was opened in Washington under an Ambassador accredited to the OAS. Canada, which has been a member of five inter-American organizations linked with the OAS — the Pan American Institute of Geography and History, the Inter American Statistical Institute, the Inter-American Centre for Tax Administrators, the Centre for Latin American Monetary Studies and the Postal Union of the Americas and Spain — has joined three more of these institutions: the Pan American Health Organization, the Inter-American Institute of Agricutural Sciences and the Inter-American Development Bank.

The most significant Canadian commitment to the development of this region was Canada's accession to full membership in the Inter-American Development Bank in 1972. Canada has subscribed US\$242 million to the Bank's ordinary capital fund, \$40 million of it paid in and \$202 million callable. Canada is also contributing US\$60 million to the Bank's Fund for Special Operations, making a total cash contribution of US\$100 million payable over an initial period of three years. Prior to Canadian membership, the Bank had administered Canadian loans totalling \$74 million for Latin American development over a period of eight years.

Bilateral relations were also intensified with countries in the area. For example, the Canadian program of bilateral development assistance to Latin American countries, expected to amount to \$10 to \$12 million annually, progressed from the planning to the implementation stage. Those countries which most need and can most effectively utilize Canadian technical assistance are receiving a major part of available resources through sustained programs. Other countries in the region are eligible to receive assistance on an ad hoc project-by-project basis; in 1972 both Cuba and Haiti were included in this group. In order to concentrate Canadian assistance within those sectors where Canadian technical expertise is most applicable to the region's needs, emphasis has been given to projects in the fields of education, agriculture, fisheries, forestry and public administration. Aid funds are also available through Canadian non-governmental organizations engaged in developmental and humanitarian work in Latin America, and through disaster-relief organizations.

Bilateral relations with Latin American countries have broadened in a number of ways. The series of youth, cultural, scientific and technical exchanges projected at the Canada - Mexico Ministerial Committee in October 1971 has begun. New initiatives in disseminating information about Canada include the opening of a Canadian Library Centre in Mexico City. Closer consultation and liaison with Latin American countries have been cultivated on a