

The monetary, fiscal, and incomes policy adopted by the Government will support the medium-term growth plan by maintaining steady downward pressure on domestic prices.

HONOURABLE MEMBERS, in its dealings abroad the Government will pursue policies designed to keep New Zealand safe, and to increase our overseas earnings.

In these uncertain times the Government is determined that New Zealand should continue to play its part in helping to maintain international stability. The recent despatch overseas of members of our armed forces on a difficult but essential mission to assist peace making in the Sinai is evidence of the Government's commitment to this objective.

Earning more income overseas through the export of goods and services is the key to faster economic growth. It is the Government's intention, therefore, to continue to accord high priority to the promotion of New Zealand external trading interests.

The Government will use meetings at Ministerial level of the OECD and the GATT to focus international attention on the need for decisive measures to improve access conditions and establish better trading opportunities for agricultural products.

The Government will continue its close contacts with New Zealand's major trading partners, particularly the European Community, the United States, and Japan, with the object not only of retaining existing access levels but expanding them further. Discussions with the European Community on the level of New Zealand butter access for 1983 and beyond will be of special importance.

New Zealand has a particular commitment to the South Pacific which, along with South-east Asia, will continue to receive the major share of our development assistance. New Zealand's island partners will also continue to be assisted through the Pacific Islands industrial development scheme.

HONOURABLE MEMBERS, planning for the future is an essential process. This is being carried out in both the private and public sectors, not just for a few major projects but also for developments of different scales.