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**Extracts from address by Shridath S Ramphal, Secretary-General of the Commonwealth and Chairman of the Third World Prize Selection Committee, at the Third World Prize ceremony.**

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The Third World Prize was inspired by a sense of need to acknowledge contributions of great worth and excellence to the peoples of the Third World; contributions that sometimes bear directly on the Third World; others that touch it as part of a wider humanity. I am glad that the Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Third World Foundation, the President of BCCI, Mr Agha Hasan Abedi, is here with us today – because it is he who, not just in terms of benefaction, but of inspired commitment and conviction, has made the Third World Prize possible. The world is better for such men who reach out to the service of our inseparable humanity with a spirituality that is both humble in itself and humbling to those it touches.

In Willy Brandt, the Third World Prize for 1984 honours contributions to the Third World which have both of the elements I spoke of; contributions to peace and to development. There was a time when the Third World might have been tempted to see itself as somehow removed from the gravest threats of East/West confrontation and escalating arms race, sometimes even tempted to see advantage in trading of the rivalries of major powers. Those days are over. The Third World knows that whether in terms of the deepening link between development and disarmament or the terrible prospects of a 'nuclear winter' the challenge of survival in a nuclear age is a challenge they share with the rest of mankind.

Willy Brandt's work for human understanding, his

vision of *ostpolitik* translated into *detente* enlarged the prospects for peace not just for a time but for all time. New challenges, it is true, will arise and have arisen; but a world that once saw his vision fulfilled knows that it can be attained again however dark the prospects from time to time. It is work, therefore, that continuously builds hope and we have been blessed with his being able to carry on that work and so give hope a tinge of expectation.

That this great man of our time should also have been among the first to recognise that peace and development are indivisible and to have been ready to give vital years of service through the Independent Commission on International Development Issues that he led, places him even more prominently in the front line of those who have served the cause of the Third World.

As the citation of the Award of the Third World Prize to Willy Brandt recalls – when, over 13 years ago, he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize, the presentation speech ended with the testimony that “the name of Willy Brandt will live in history as Germany's great Chancellor of peace and reconciliation”. I end in the same way with the confirmation that those passing years have added, and in the knowledge to which his life now attests – that peace and development are one. For a sorely perplexed and rather frightened world that life of service (in the evocative language of Tagore) is indeed “a lantern that makes enemy of the darkness of the farther road”.