

agreed. What remain are the most difficult "hard-core" issues relating primarily to an international system for deep seabed mining, and the translation of the common heritage concept into an equitable system for extracting the minerals of the deep ocean bed. We cannot afford to let the Conference fail, particularly now that it has accomplished so much and homeport is within sight.

Canada agrees however that the Conference must be brought to a conclusion as soon as possible. While an arbitrary deadline could impede, rather than expedite, the work of the Conference, we believe that the negotiations should end during the course of 1979. This would lead, we hope, to the adoption of a draft treaty in the early part of 1980. Canada will give its full support to the attainment of this objective.

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The Secretary of State concluded his speech by touching on the challenge of UN member states to ensure the effectiveness of the Organization's activities. Mr. Jamieson said:

Despite its flaws and failures, the United Nations binds us to certain basic principles which are as valid now as they were in 1945. This organization has stood for a third of a century as witness to the ideal of the common accountability of every nation for enlarging the security prosperity and dignity of all mankind.

The challenge is to ensure that the UN system responds to the complex and changing environment in which we live. Our basic principles must not be encrusted with bureaucratic procedure. The momentum of this institution must be towards the issues of the day, not away from them. I am confident we will meet this challenge.