EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The 43rd session of the General Assembly of the United Nations opened in autumn 1988. Resolutions concerning different aspects of arms control and disarmament were on the agenda. Outside of UN and government forums, these resolutions are rarely followed on a year by year basis. This paper compares the resolutions of the 43rd session with those of the 42nd session in 1987. Such work carried on from year to year would offer many advantages.

First, any interested researcher could compare the wording of the different resolutions considered by the General Assembly from one year to the next, and discover the trends in the way members vote, particularly Canada. Second, this comparison would shed light on Canadian policy towards arms control and disarmament, and would illustrate how this policy has been expressed in detail. Finally, it would establish an analytical framework to gauge the effects of changes in governments, stresses on East-West tensions, and shifts in North-South relations.