

of Angola, Mozambique and Portuguese Guinea. In all four situations minority groups have decided that they alone have the right to determine for an indefinite period the rate of progress and the capacity to govern of the unfranchised majority. These inequities must be ended. The process of peaceful change must be accelerated.

But how? We are all looking for some way out of the present impasse over South West Africa. At the XXII session of the assembly, the Canadian representative suggested that the assembly explore the offer made by the foreign minister of South Africa to receive a personal representative of the Secretary General, without prejudice to any position which may have been taken by members of this organization. We still hope that this approach can be followed up. We are prepared to consider other approaches if they command a wide measure of agreement and if they are realistic.

We have agreed on the principles of United Nations action against Rhodesia. We must do everything possible to see that these decisions are carried out by all states and especially by South Africa and Portugal. We must continue also to confront these two states with our unanimous judgment that policies of racial repression and political subjugation are incompatible with United Nations principles. Canada respects and intends to abide by the decisions of the Security Council.

#### HUMAN RIGHTS

Violations of human rights are not restricted to southern Africa. All member states are under an obligation to look to their own records of achievement in protecting human rights. My government supports the initiatives which have been taken in the United Nations in the formulation of the various international covenants and declarations in the field of human rights. Canadian legislation reflects this concern in various enactments prohibiting discrimination based on sex, race, colour, creed or national origin, in living practices, conditions of employment, public accommodation and trade union membership. Voluntary organizations have promoted amongst all Canadians an awareness of their basic rights. Several provinces have established human rights commissions or ombudsmen, and a bill of rights enumerating individual rights has been adopted by the federal parliament. The federal government is proposing entrenchment of a code of human rights in our constitution.

In order to facilitate the implementation of such covenants and conventions my government recognizes the need for new approaches to the machinery of implementation. The proposal to create an office of the high commissioner for human rights is, in this context, an important and welcome development which I believe deserves the broadest possible support from member states.

#### PLIGHT OF CIVILIANS IN WAR

In the broader context of human rights, the review of the arrangements for coordination between the activities of international relief agencies in case of natural disasters should, we think, be extended to cases of hostilities so that in such cases also assistance can be provided quickly and effectively to the innocent victims involved.

#### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

This organization is dedicated to the elimination of poverty, ignorance and disease. At the end of the first development decade, this goal is still far off. We can look back with satisfaction to some achievements—I think of the establishment of the United Nations development program for example—and we have learned some lessons. We have learned that economic development is a long term process and that co-ordination of international programs involves more than setting targets and adjusting priorities. We know better now that the terms and conditions under which aid is offered are of fundamental importance, as is the relationship of trade to aid. We realize that the improvement of agricultural techniques is critical to the whole development process.

Nevertheless, there is no hiding the fact that the level of international assistance to developing countries is inadequate. The needs grow faster than the resources are made available, partly because population increases so rapidly. So far as Canada is concerned, our aid program will continue to grow year by year to reach the goal of 1 per cent of gross national product as quickly as possible. We are pursuing a set of economic policies which will free resources for high priority purposes, and notwithstanding the imposition of strict limitations on expenditures in general, our aid effort will increase substantially next year. This includes an increase of 25 per cent in our contribution to the United Nations development program in the coming year, as