

must multiply.

The instability in Southern Africa is both an ally and a product of apartheid. One of the most wrenching conversations I have had was with Canadian aid workers in Mozambique, who fear that the projects they build to help people will become targets of terrorists, and put at risk the very lives they are working to improve. An essential part of the challenge in Southern Africa is thus to bring more stability to the Front Line States.

Mr. President, before I conclude my remarks, I want to applaud again the new vitality that has been injected into the global arms control and disarmament process through the important announcement that the United States and the Soviet Union have agreed in principle to work towards the dismantling of intermediate and short-range nuclear missiles. Radical reductions in nuclear arms has always been the core of Canadian policy in this area. None of us can ignore that this is the first time a prospective agreement will actually eliminate nuclear weapons,. This is just the initial step in a long and difficult process, but with continued determination and resolve we can hope to move to agreements on strategic weapons, conventional weapons, chemical weapons and a comprehensive test ban.

Mr. President, I began by talking about the atmosphere of crisis which was so pervasive as we met last year. Today, we must all surely take satisfaction from the atmosphere of hope that surrounds us. Hope, because both globally and regionally there is recognition that a peaceful and secure world is of universal benefit and worthy of relentless pursuit. Hope, because the social and economic evils that beset us are being addressed in a meaningful way. And, finally, hope because this Organization of ours, the United Nations, is reasserting its capacity to play the central role it was designed to play, in dealing with the ills that still plague the international community. The U.N. agenda stretches before us: Afghanistan, Kampuchea, Cyprus, peace in the Middle East between Israel and the Arab States, an end to terrorism, and the relentless human struggle to eradicate hunger and injustice. Somehow, Mr. President, it feels as though we are closer this year than last to tackling that agenda.

Thank you, Mr. President.