

available for the twenty-sixth session of the Assembly. The questionnaire has recently been received in Ottawa, and we are at present engaged in formulating the Canadian views to be transmitted to United Nations headquarters. This initiative, which, as the resolution states, "should seek to facilitate the greatest possible contribution by the Court to the advancement of the rule of law and the promotion of justice among nations", is most welcome. Canada has always supported and will continue to support all such efforts to assist the ICJ in continuing to serve, with renewed effectiveness, as the principal judicial organ of the United Nations.

Before concluding, I should like to say a very few words to this distinguished audience about the skilled practitioners of the art of legal diplomacy. Many nations, including Canada, rely to a great extent on these experts to develop, promote and create a body of generally acceptable international law that is materially relevant to the modern age in which we live. This speaks, much more eloquently than any individual foreign minister can, of the reliance and trust that is placed in them. I also believe that their continuing contact with important professional and academic institutions and associations, such as the IIA and CIIA, can help these legal experts to keep fully aware of and take into account informed opinion on these detailed and complex subjects. This is another reason I am pleased to have had the opportunity of addressing you this evening -- to maintain and enhance this relation between the foreign-policy-making branch of the Government, which is directly concerned with international law, and the Canadian professional and academic community, of which your Associations are a significant and influential part.

S/C