

Three years later the concept of the strategy of suffocation remains valid. I therefore take this opportunity to underline the importance the Canadian Government attaches to this strategy, and in particular, to an early resumption of the SALT\* process, which is a pre-requisite for progress on the elements of the strategy.

In addition to the resumption of the SALT process, Canadian priorities are: the conclusion of a comprehensive nuclear test ban; the conclusion of a ban on chemical weapons, the evolution of an effective non-proliferation régime based on the Non-Proliferation Treaty, and negotiations to limit and reduce conventional weapons. These priorities will guide Canadian preparations for the Second United Nations Special Session on Disarmament next year in which Canada intends to take an active part.

The Canadian Government believes that the Second Special Session should review the implementation of the Final Document of the First Session, and should give renewed impetus to its implementation by suggesting new measures, approaches and procedures. In the lead-up to the Session we hope for citizen participation in the preparation of realistic proposals for positions and initiatives to be taken. Members of the Pugwash movement will undoubtedly wish to use the on-coming session as a catalyst for their efforts.

Ladies and gentlemen, we undoubtedly agree that the first objective in attempting to limit nuclear and other weapons is to lessen the possibility of war. But apart from the disastrous effects of a nuclear war, the fact that five to six per cent of world global output is presently allocated to military purposes must be a powerful incentive to people of goodwill to redirect these resources to social and economic development, especially of the developing countries. Not only for our own security but also to relieve the suffering of the world's poorer peoples, Canada will therefore press on in its efforts toward progress in limiting armaments and armies. But efforts of governments depend, to a large degree, on individuals like yourselves, who devote their energy and time in the common search for solutions. I therefore wish to encourage you to continue in your own efforts whose importance, given the magnitude of the problem, cannot be underestimated.