

MR. CHAIRMAN,

CANADA IS A MEMBER OF A DEFENSIVE ALLIANCE. WE ARE NOT NEUTRAL. WE STAND FOR FREEDOM.

WE ALSO STAND FOR NEGOTIATIONS, ALL NEGOTIATIONS, PARTICULARLY THOSE ON THE REDUCTION OF NUCLEAR ARMS. IN COMPANY WITH OUR ALLIES, CANADA HAS REAFFIRMED ITS WILLINGNESS TO REVERSE, HALT OR MODIFY THE EUROMISSILE DEPLOYMENT -- INCLUDING THE REMOVAL AND DISMANTLING OF MISSILES ALREADY DEPLOYED -- UPON ACHIEVEMENT OF A BALANCED, EQUITABLE AND VERIFIABLE AGREEMENT CALLING FOR SUCH ACTION. WE ARE FOR THE RESUMPTION OF NEGOTIATIONS -- UNCONDITIONALLY -- AT THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE DATE. THAT MANY OTHERS SHOW THIS DESIRE AND CONCERN IS BORNE WITNESS BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY'S RESOLUTIONS ON THIS SUBJECT.

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WE HAVE A COMMON INTEREST IN SURVIVAL; WE HAVE A COMMON INTEREST IN PEACE. THE UNITED NATIONS IS AN IRREPLACEABLE INSTRUMENT THROUGH WHICH THIS SUPREME GOAL MUST BE PURSUED.

THE UNITED NATIONS IS NOT A DISARMAMENT NEGOTIATING BODY. BUT IT CAN SET THE STAGE, AND DEFINE THE ATMOSPHERE. WE MEET TO SET PRIORITIES; WE MEET TO ENCOURAGE THE DIALOGUE ON ARMS CONTROL AND INTERNATIONAL SECURITY AMONGST ALL MEMBERS OF THE UNITED NATIONS. THIS WAS THE FUNDAMENTAL ACHIEVEMENT OF THE FINAL DOCUMENT OF THE FIRST SPECIAL SESSION ON DISARMAMENT. LET US BUILD ON IT.

A FIRST STEP MIGHT BE TO RECOGNIZE THE DEPTH AND BREADTH OF OUR COMMON INTERESTS, WHICH GO BEYOND THE DAILY ISSUES THAT SO OFTEN DIVIDE THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY.

NUCLEAR WARS CANNOT BE WON AND MUST NOT BE FOUGHT. WE MUST BE LIBERATED FROM THE FEAR OF NUCLEAR WAR BY ACCIDENT OR SURPRISE. PROLIFERATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS IS A COMMON, CONSTANT CONCERN. THE DANGERS OF DESTABILIZING WEAPONS ARE RECOGNIZED. CONFIDENCE-BUILDING IN ALL ITS FORMS, FROM IMPROVED METHODS OF CRISIS MANAGEMENT TO EFFECTIVE AND BALANCED MEANS OF VERIFYING ARMS CONTROL AGREEMENTS, ARE ESSENTIAL. ARMAMENT BUILDUPS BRING HIGH COSTS FOR DEVELOPMENT, NATIONALLY AND INTERNATIONALLY. ALL STATES HAVE LEGITIMATE SECURITY INTERESTS.

MR. CHAIRMAN,

THESE COMMON CONCERNS, THESE COMMON PRINCIPLES, ALREADY APPEAR IN VARIOUS FORMS OF INTERNATIONAL LAW. THERE IS, AS I HAVE SUGGESTED, AN OPPORTUNITY TO BUILD ON THEM.