

Organization (UNESCO). That United Nations agency, it is fair to say, has strayed widely off track. So much so, in fact, that it led to governments like those of Singapore, Britain, and the United States serving notice that they were going to leave that agency. We decided that it was in our interest to use our influence from within, to reform UNESCO, and to bring it back on course.

We had a choice in the Multilateral Trade Negotiations, where there is a disagreement between developed and developing countries as to what should be discussed when the world comes together to set international rules on trade. We are one of the world's developed countries, but with unique lines open to developing countries, so we have chosen to seek common ground between the two sides. A Canadian delegation will be visiting countries in Asia and Latin America in October, trying to get agreement on an agenda that might move the world forward.

And we had a choice to make in South Africa about the means we would use to seek to bring an end to *apartheid*. We have imposed economic sanctions — stopping global export insurance; stopping Program for Export Market Development grants, ending our double taxation treaty. But we have also recognized that our membership and our standing in the Commonwealth give Canada a particular card to play. Of all the institutions in the world, the Commonwealth has more potential influence in South Africa than virtually any other, and Canada, for our part, has more real influence in the Commonwealth than in many other agencies. Here then is a major challenge of Canadian foreign policy — to identify what our particular strengths are, and to use those strengths to best effect.

We are a product of our particular traditions and geography and values. Those combine in Canada as they do nowhere else, and create a nation that is both distinct and strong. For too long we have questioned our own identity, doubted our own strengths. If there are growing challenges abroad, there is growing confidence at home, and our duty is to make the most of both.