

Canada recognizes that some countries and some critics argue that the world is moving too slowly on this issue. In truth, no one could have predicted a mere six months ago that so much would galvanize so quickly. The pressure on South Africa is inexorably mounting. South Africa feels the pressure. The strategy now must be never to allow that pressure to abate. Over the next six months — the time-frame of the Commonwealth accord; the time-frame which Bishop Tutu has endorsed — we must use every device, every initiative, every opportunity, every diplomatic skill, every debate, every appropriate forum, within the United Nations, beyond the United Nations, individually and collectively to persuade South Africa that peaceful change alone makes sense, and that peaceful change can only be achieved when *apartheid* is forever expunged from the vocabulary of human and political behaviour.

The so-called reforms are no fundamental reforms at all. There remain in existence more than 300 *apartheid* laws. They constitute a lexicon of oppression. They restrict and control, on the basis of race alone, virtually the entire range of human activity. They are anathema to a civilized society.

Despite the elaborate arguments of some, we are not dealing with a complex issue. We are dealing with colour and dignity. Whenever I speak to one of my diplomatic colleagues from Africa or Asia about *apartheid*, the elemental pain in their faces is the pain of a simple truth: colour and dignity. I've never felt that more strongly in my life than since coming to the United Nations. This is a struggle we all must win. South Africa must be persuaded that the dismantling of *apartheid*, the lifting of the state of emergency, the release of Nelson Mandela and all other political detainees, the revocation of the ban on the African National Congress and other political parties, and above all, an immediate dialogue with the representative black leadership — these are the preconditions for an orderly and peaceful transition to a free and non-racial democratic society.

Mr. President, some people ask, what exactly does the black leadership of South Africa want? Let me end on that note with this quote:

"In government we will not be satisfied with anything less than direct individual adult suffrage and the right to stand for and be elected to all organs of government. In economic matters we will be satisfied with nothing less than equality of opportunity in every sphere, and the enjoyment by all of those heritages which form the resources of the country which up to now have been appropriated on a racial 'whites only' basis. In culture, we will be satisfied with nothing less than the opening of all doors of learning to non-segregatory institutions on the sole criterion of ability. In the social sphere we will be satisfied with nothing less than the abolition of all racial bars. We do not demand these things for people of African descent alone. We demand them for all South Africans, white and black. On these principles we are uncompromising."

Who is the author of those words? Chief Albert Lutuli when he was head of the African National Congress. On what occasion? In 1961, in his speech upon receiving the Nobel Peace Prize.

Two Nobel Laureates, Lutuli and Tutu, almost 25 years apart.

Mr. President, the people of South Africa have waited long enough.