

Concerning the proposal to consider the establishment of a working group to prepare a draft convention, while endorsing the ultimate goal, Canada is convinced that hasty drafting exercises should be avoided. Careful study, as recommended by the Sub-Commission, is clearly in order before launching any new standard-setting exercises. In the meantime the existing framework of international law appears equal to the task of proscribing unacceptable behaviour in this field.

Finally, I wish to emphasize my government's view that the Commission must in all circumstances continue to pay urgent attention to encouraging the implementation of the existing Declaration. The Commission's Special Rapporteur will remain a critical element of our work in this connection, even as the effort to develop stronger international safeguards proceeds.