

CHAPTER 4 INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS AND MULTILATERAL COOPERATION

Highlights

- *Canada involved in UN negotiations over Gulf War.*
- *Commonwealth influences hasten end of Apartheid.*
- *Canada co-sponsors World Summit for Children.*
- *Nuclear cooperation agreements in force with 28 countries.*



Mr. Nelson Mandela, Vice-president of the National African Congress and Mr. Joe Clark

THE UNITED NATIONS

Canada holds the strong conviction that many international problems can best be addressed at the global level, and that the UN is the only organization currently geared to taking such global action.

As a member of the United Nations Security Council, Canada was fully engaged in extensive diplomatic negotiations resulting in the adoption of 12 resolutions condemning Iraq's invasion of Kuwait, imposing comprehensive mandatory sanctions against Iraq, and authorizing the use of necessary force.

Canada chaired one committee of the Security Council established to implement the sanctions invoked against Iraq, and was vice-chair of the other.

Canada also took a leading role at the UN on the following issues:

- the arms embargo against South Africa;

- the UN Central American peacekeeping operation;
- the financing of the Cyprus peacekeeping operation. To emphasize the inadequacy of funding, Canada abstained from the Security Council vote to extend the mandate of the peacekeeping force.
- the Cambodian conflict; and
- the Israeli-occupied territories.

Canada actively supported Haiti's efforts to hold free and fair elections. In recognition of this effort, the Secretary-General asked Canada to assume responsibility for the UN military observer team.

Canada's high level of involvement in UN specialized agencies was inspired by growing challenges resulting particularly from poverty, unstable economics, galloping technology and environmental degradation, in a context of global demands and enhanced expectations.