

arms transfers and on Canada's military holdings and procurement from domestic sources.

In the meantime, Canada will continue its practice of issuing an annual report on its military exports, which covers *all* categories of military equipment, not just the seven elaborated in the UN resolution. The report covering calendar year 1991 should be available in March 1992.

In a statement to the UNGA First Committee in November, Canada's Ambassador for Disarmament Peggy Mason urged other Member States to demonstrate a similar commitment to full implementation of the resolution and to provide data on both arms transfers and procurement at the earliest possible opportunity. ■

Commonwealth Heads Call for Stronger Non-Proliferation Efforts

The following is an extract from the communique resulting from the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in Harare, Zimbabwe in October. Canada strongly encouraged its Commonwealth partners to make such a statement, as a demonstration of their political commitment to addressing proliferation issues.

Heads of Government noted with concern the continuing dangers of regional and local conflicts. These dangers, and the example of the Gulf War, underlined the need to strengthen international regimes limiting weapons of mass destruction and the need to curb the build-up of conventional weapons beyond the legitimate requirements of self-defence. In this context, they noted the recent accessions of several states to the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. They strongly urged all states to redouble efforts to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons in all its aspects. They called for the conclusion of a chemical weapons convention in 1992 and endorsed in principle the proposal to establish a register of arms transfers at the United Nations.

SSEA to UNGA: Building a More Effective UN

The following are excerpts from a speech delivered by the Honourable Barbara McDougall, Secretary of State for External Affairs, to the 46th session of the UN General Assembly in New York on September 25.

We meet this year at a time of opportunity and challenge. The pace and direction of events of the past few months have, in general terms, augured well for a more secure and more equitable world order, and for the ultimate triumph of a world dedicated to the rule of law. But progress has presented challenges...

The challenge to the international community is one of adaptation, from a world centred on the individual nation-state to an interdependent world, from a world dominated by bilateral diplomacy to one in which multilateral institutions occupy a central place...

I believe, Mr. President, that we must look beyond a system that only inhibits armed confrontations. I believe that we need a new definition of the concept of multilateral security, a definition that takes into account the new and varied threats to global peace and security. These include the depletion of the ozone layer, the degradation of our seas, the debilitating scourge of illicit drugs, and

worldwide epidemics such as AIDS, mass exoduses of people from one country to another, and the desperate poverty that persists in many parts of the world.

We recognize as well that our collective security depends upon democracy and respect for human rights.

UN effectiveness

Mr. President, the Gulf crisis showed that the United Nations has the will and the capacity necessary to repel military aggression. But can we meet other challenges — challenges to economic and social development, to human rights and freedoms, and to the environment?

For Canada, the single most important priority is to make the United Nations stronger, more effective and more relevant to today's challenges.

Mr. President, we can begin by taking a fresh look at both the UN Charter and the Security Council. Few people, for example, realize that seven countries, which have joined the United Nations and are now serving it with distinction, are still identified as "enemy states." We can and should find ways to remove this archaic stigma.

As for the Council itself, we, like others, are looking for effective leader-

ship from the current five members who today are working together in the kind of partnership envisaged in the Charter. Canada believes it is not too soon to start looking ahead to the day when key countries, representing all regions of the globe, are permanent members on the Security Council. In the meantime, our immediate priority is to ensure that the Council in its present form functions with vision, effectiveness and wisdom.

As a starting point, we must strengthen the Security Council's capacity to take preventive or anticipatory actions. An ability to assess impending flash-points, engage the necessary political will at the earliest stage, and act effectively and decisively in timely ways, will increase the lead time in reacting to events, and will reduce the security risk by minimizing the element of surprise. Indeed, the very capacity of the UN system to provide early and effective warning may, itself, discourage recourse to conflict...

At another level, for the UN to be efficient all Member States must respect their financial obligations. This means paying obligations on time and in full. Given its enhanced role, it is unacceptable that the UN should be paralyzed by a lack of sufficient resources because assessments go unpaid.