

Axworthy argued that even if a Charter review conference did not adopt any amendments, it would allow all UN members, and especially the more than 100 states which were not founding members, "to put forward their vision of a 'new world order' that responds to the needs of the world as a whole."¹²

Following a meeting with Secretary-General Boutros-Ghali in February 1992, Liberal leader Jean Chretien supported the idea that the UN should have a permanent military force for quick action on peacekeeping missions and in support of preventive diplomacy.¹³

In September 1991, Conservative MP Walter McLean sponsored a private member's resolution in the House of Commons calling for "a summit level meeting at the United Nations on global security, to examine ways of implementing and strengthening the United Nations peacekeeping and enforcement mechanisms." The resolution received all-party support. Liberal MP Warren Allmand commented:

What we need are, first of all, regionally located standing UN forces made up of national contingents on a rotating basis. When an incident takes place, the Security Council decides that we need a peacekeeping force, and the force is drafted from national contingents at the time.¹⁴

NDP defence critic John Brewin called for better training of Canadian military personnel in peacekeeping techniques, and supported proposals to convert one or more military bases, which might otherwise be closed, into peacekeeping training centres. He commented:

In passing I note with regret that the government in its defence statement of two days ago included UN peacekeeping only as an afterthought, a paragraph stuck in the statement. It made no commitment to improve the work of the Canadian military in training and preparing itself for a role in peacekeeping.¹⁵

¹² Lloyd Axworthy, "Perfect Chance to Repair the UN Charter," *Globe and Mail*, 14 August 1991: A17.

¹³ Quoted in *La Presse*, 12 February 1992: B6.

¹⁴ *Commons Debates*, 19 September 1991: 2434.

¹⁵ *Ibid.*: 2435.