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facing the multilateral economic system and its leading institutions must be dealt with. Bilateral relations between countries on the one hand, and the multilateral system on the other, ought to be mutually complementary and reinforcing.

Similarly, protectionism, which threatens the prosperity of developed and developing countries alike, must be resisted. The industrialized countries must keep our markets open to Third World products if the developing countries are to maintain the export earnings necessary to service their external debt and to improve living standards. All of us will lose if our borders close. All, therefore, have an important stake in ensuring that the multilateral trading system remains open and healthy. That is why Canada has been at the forefront in calling for a new round of multilateral trade negotiations — and why we have been working to liberalize trade and resist protectionism in many other ways.

By joining in the preparations for a new trade round now, the developing countries can be joint architects of a revitalized General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade system. Canada is anxious to work with the developing countries to identify areas of common interest which could be pursued in the next round.

Economic development is critical, but its benefits will only be fully realized and enjoyed if the member states of the UN co-operate together in a concerted plan to tackle the pre-eminent social and human rights issues of our day.

Illicit trafficking and abuse of narcotic and other drugs is a major social challenge on every continent.

I am pleased that the UN has set out a plan of action in this vital field. Last year, Canada joined others in co-sponsoring a resolution which set in motion the drafting of a new convention to combat the illicit drug trade. It constitutes a key element in current international efforts to deal with this social problem. The convention must aim at strengthening enforcement measures against illicit drug trafficking.

We welcome the Secretary-General's proposal for the convening of a drug conference in 1987 at the ministerial level. We commend the link it makes between initiatives needed to cut down on the supply of illicit drugs and the steps required to reduce demand. We will be working actively with other interested countries to develop a resolution to carry this idea further forward at this session.

Forty years ago, the Charter made the rights and freedoms of all persons a matter of legitimate concern to the whole international community. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights itself is nearly four decades old. Yet our work has only just begun. As the Secretary-General notes in his current report: "Massive violations of human rights continue to take place, often of tragic proportions."

We must, therefore, expand the frontiers of UN activities in the human rights field. This will entail completing the work on the Convention on the Rights of the Child, ensuring that the new Convention Against Torture is properly implemented, extending the Commission's program of advisory services, encouraging other countries to offer technical assistance in the human rights field, assisting the Working Group on the Disappeared. Moreover, the UN must continue to focus attention on the fate of prisoners

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