

We Canadians have a proud tradition internationally, and this Government was elected to do more than respect that reputation. We were elected to renew it - to modernize our foreign policy in the same way that we challenged and changed conventional thinking about deficits, and defence, and relations with the provinces, and the development of our regions. We have made real progress in all these reforms and, under the Prime Minister's leadership, no where more than in foreign policy.

In quick summary, we have helped shape the mandate of the new round of multilateral trade negotiations, particularly respecting agriculture; we have initiated historic trade negotiations with our largest trading partner, the United States; we have begun the first major review of defence policy in nearly two decades; we have led the internal reform of the United Nations, including persuading that cautious body to take the plunge and appoint Therese Paquette-Sevigny, a Canadian, as the first female Under Secretary General in the United Nations forty year history; the Prime Minister has regularly raised, at international economic summits, the inequity of third world debt and, beginning last year, we put our own aid program entirely on an all-grant basis; we sent experts to Central America to help the Contadora countries devise an effective control and verification mechanism - and last week, after the dramatic agreement by the five Central American presidents, sent Canadian experts back again so that Canada's support of that initiative will be practical help as well as words; we have hosted a major international conference on the seismic verification of a nuclear test ban, and have been active in every international and alliance forum where arms control and disarmament are discussed; and we have opened up the process of foreign policy to all Canadians, whether by establishing David MacDonald's special role to coordinate Canada's extraordinary response to the famine in Ethiopia and the Sahel, or by launching major public parliamentary reviews of foreign policy and aid policy, and then acting on most of the recommendations.