

Background and Canadian Objectives

Proposed by UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan to articulate a vision of the United Nations for the 21st century, the United Nations Millennium Summit will be held Sept. 6–8, 2000, in New York. Prime Minister Jean Chrétien will attend, along with some 170 heads of state or government.

There will be two daily plenary sessions, each featuring about 30 speakers. As well, the summit will feature four roundtable sessions, each chaired by a national leader. All sessions will be closed to the media and the public.

Canada's Prime Minister will deliver a plenary address on Sept. 7 and will participate in a roundtable discussion and a Security Council summit.

Canadian objectives are to

- press for strong reaffirmation of the overall objectives of the United Nations and ensure its global leadership role in promoting international peace and security;
- reaffirm Canada's support for multilateral approaches to global problems and seek to make the UN more relevant to the needs of the 21st century, through UN reform and revitalization;
- uphold the Secretary-General's report, *We the Peoples: The Role of the United Nations in the 21st Century*, as a blueprint for addressing the challenges of globalization and for promoting human security and sustainable development; and
- reassert the leadership role of the Security Council and seek to improve its effectiveness in conflict resolution and peacekeeping, particularly in Africa.