

We have already been inspired in this regard for many years by two documents which hold an unequalled place in the minds and hearts of the people of the world. One is the Charter of the United Nations; another is the Declaration of Human Rights. How can we do better when looking to the future than to borrow heavily from the very words and phrases that have been so inspiring to us. More recently the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples has come to be a similar focus of dedication to the advancement of human rights. This too is a valuable source for selecting the means of giving expression to the deep feelings most of us share in regard to fundamental human rights.

Mr. Chairman, my Delegation felt that the draft Resolution tabled by the Ukraine was weakened by the extravagance of some of its paragraphs and by its effort to have future emphasis laid on the colonial Declaration to the detriment of the Declaration of Human Rights. Some of those defects have been corrected with the addition of the new co-sponsors of Document L/992, Rev.1. Still my own and other delegations have tabled amendments in L/1000 which are designed to take this process some way further. We trust these amendments will be accepted as improvements in the interests of the dignity, solemnity and dedication that should attach to a question like that of human rights.

As I have indicated above, the unshakable conviction of Canada is that human rights and freedoms must be fostered for the benefit of individuals in all corners of the world. That is, they must be "enjoyed universally" -- to stress again the two singularly important words I have already emphasized. Canada is dedicated to the view that the thrust of United Nations concern must be to develop actual conditions throughout the world in which the precious rights enunciated in the Declaration are, in fact, enjoyed by the peoples everywhere. Whenever we speak of these matters but more specially when we discuss them here in the United Nations Headquarters, all of us ought surely to speak for humanity as a whole.