

I call on the Soviet government to honour those principles and also the ideals of international conduct which the Soviet Union itself is pledged to follow. I ask that it respond positively to international efforts, including re-establishing a truly independent and non-aligned government in Afghanistan -- a government which can reflect without outside interference the real will of the Afghan people.

As the countries of the area have emphasized, the situation in Kampuchea is another such threat to peace and security. There have also been the beginnings of an attempt to confront the political issues at the root of the Kampuchean problem. We now know what a resolution of the problem must involve: a cease-fire on the ground; the supervised withdrawal of foreign troops; U.N.-supervised free elections and appropriate measures to ensure that elections are not disrupted by armed Kampuchean factions. Canada supports these proposals made at the international conference on Kampuchea which appear to provide necessary guarantees to all of the parties involved in the conflict. We support as well the establishment of an ad hoc committee to investigate and implement what is needed for the re-establishment of self-determination for the proud people of Kampuchea. We urge the member states of this organization to take this opportunity to settle this tragic situation and to promote at last a durable peace in South-East Asia.

The self-determination sought by patriots of both Afghanistan and Kampuchea is one of the historic themes of the U.N. It has been a central focus of the non-aligned movement, of which both Afghanistan and Kampuchea are members. It was also 20 years ago this month that the first meeting of the movement was held in Belgrade. I salute what the movement has done to advance the rights of newly-emerging countries.

Today, this ideal of self-determination is celebrated with the attainment of independence by Belize. This is an achievement for the U.N. in which Canada takes particular satisfaction as a long-time co-sponsor of U.N. resolutions on the subject. While Canada is disappointed that talks between the U.K., Belize, and Guatemala have not led to the resolution of all outstanding issues, we are encouraged that there is a real commitment on the part of all parties to the promotion of peace in the region, which must include a final agreement on Belize. We are confident that the governments of Belize and Guatemala will settle the issues between them in a peaceful and durable manner.