

nations in many parts of this world. These wars and their continuance mark the failure of our world organization to make peace prevail. This failure is a reproach, not to the United Nations, but to each and every member state.

As you know, Sir, Canada is a member of the North Atlantic Alliance. That Alliance has for more than 30 years helped prevent war in Europe. We believe in a strong defence as a deterrent to war. We believe further that a country such as ours can make its best contribution not only to defence but to peace and stability by participating in organizations such as these.

You will also be aware that the Canadian Armed Forces have taken part in almost every United Nations peace-keeping force that has been formed. We are particularly proud of the fact that we have never failed to respond as a nation to a call to serve the United Nations. We have heard that call in the past and it is with great pleasure that we meet with you today in the quest for peace.

[Translation]

The wars that are still raging in various parts of the globe do not seem ready today to respond to peacemaking or peacekeeping initiatives by the United Nations.

Is there a more effective way for the world community to anticipate and avert such wars?

That is a complex question. But I want you to know, Mr. Secretary-General, that Canada agrees that a good part of the answer lies in a stronger United Nations Organization.

In particular we support your personal efforts to play a more active role in the security council in dealing with critical world situations—and to pursue the task of peacekeeping and peace-making as the *sine qua non* for significant progress in the social and economic spheres.

[English]

We welcome the steps you are taking to ensure that the machinery of international co-operation is serviced by an efficient and solid secretariat. Your actions have restored a strong and central role for the Secretary General in the management of the international system and in the conduct of world affairs. For that and for many other things, Sir, we salute you as we welcome you to our Parliament today.

Canada strongly supports this pivotal role within a renewed and revitalized United Nations system.

No less than the waging of frequent war in every part of our world, the threat of nuclear war and the danger that life on this planet will be extinguished by nuclear war is a reproach to member states and a disgrace to the ideals of the United Nations.

In every forum that is open to us, Canada will pursue arms control and disarmament with vigour, commitment and patience.

**Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!**

[Translation]

In this connection, Mr. Secretary-General, I want you to know that your remarkable intervention, at the last General Assembly, on the dangers of nuclear war, struck a responsive chord here in Canada.

Mr. Secretary-General, if the multilateral system is, at worst, under siege or, at best, in a weakened state, then we pledge to strengthen the system.

We know that continued prosperity in Canada cannot be realized except in a healthy and growing world economy.

That is the meaning of interdependence. The world community must address with renewed seriousness, the issues of trade and aid, of social and economic development, of raising living standards everywhere.

Up to now, those issues have been addressed intermittently. They must be addressed relentlessly or we shall constantly lose ground, all of us, especially the poorest.

[English]

Canadians have come to know you, Sir, for your determined and reasoned leadership of the United Nations. The leadership of the United Nations in co-ordinating the massive response of the international community to the emergency in Africa is a tribute to your personal commitment, a commitment which is shared by the Canadian people. At such times, we see vividly something of the immense possibilities for good when the nations of the world are mobilized to that end. We see manifested also, the solidarity of millions of individual human beings around the world, their sense of fraternity, their willingness to help. That, Sir, is a powerful force for the betterment of mankind.

Under your leadership, the international community must rededicate itself to the realization of these objectives and to the rule of law in international affairs. You can count upon the Canadian Government, the Canadian Parliament and the Canadian people in this formidable pursuit. Welcome, Sir.

**Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!**

**His Excellency Javier Perez de Cuellar (Secretary-General of the United Nations Organization):**

Mr. Speaker of the Senate,  
Mr. Speaker of the House of Commons,  
Mr. Prime Minister,  
Honourable Members of Parliament.

Thank you, Mr. Prime Minister, most sincerely for your warm, generous, and stimulating words of welcome.

It is a great honour for me to address this joint session of the Canadian Parliament. I regard your invitation and kind welcome as another expression of that deep concern for the