

Judge Deschênes has held a range of international positions including: Committee President of the World Association of Judges for the Expansion of the Role of the ICJ (1977-82); President of the First World Conference on the Independence of Justice (1983); President of the International Labour Organization Commission of Enquiry on Romania (1989-91); member of the UN Sub-Commission for the Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities (1984-87); and advisor to the UN Centre for Social Development and Human Affairs in Vienna (1983-84). In addition, Judge Deschênes has served as the Enquiry Commissioner on War Criminals in Canada (1985-87) and is a member of the Extraordinary Challenge Tribunal under the Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement. He has just completed a two-year term as President of the Royal Society of Canada.

Judge Deschênes will participate in next week's debate in the UN General Assembly Legal Committee in New York and will present Canada's position on the establishment of an International Criminal Court. Canada has been at the forefront of moves to develop such a court that would, among other things, have jurisdiction over war crimes in the former Yugoslavia. In her recent speech to the UN General Assembly, Mrs. McDougall called for the International Law Commission to draft a statute for the establishment of an International Criminal Court.

- 30 -

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