

active negotiations towards the achievement of a comprehensive test ban treaty. Nor have two great powers brought to an end nuclear testing in the atmosphere, despite the overwhelming weight of world public opinion.

Mr. President, the global dimension is clear and striking in the use we make of the oceans. Coastal states must protect their economic and environmental interests. On the other hand, there must be certain traditional freedoms on the oceans to facilitate world-wide exchanges. We continue to believe that these elements of the law of the sea are not irreconcilable and that a proper balance can and must be achieved. Canada believes that these rights, which are essential to the well-being of developing and developed coastal states alike, can be exercised in a manner that will take into account the rights of other legitimate users of the sea -- mankind as a whole. A new international order recognizing both the fundamental rights and responsibilities of states in respect of the oceans can emerge from the Third Law of the Sea Conference, if the governments here assembled have the will.

Similarly, outer space offers exciting prospects of benefit in meeting terrestrial needs in resource management, communications and education. These prospects can be realized for all our peoples only by searching for new and imaginative forms of international co-operation -- and I believe that through the United Nations we are well embarked on this search.

Last year the General Assembly accepted the Canadian invitation to host a conference on the urgent and vital question of human settlements now scheduled for Vancouver. We were delighted that the General Assembly responded so warmly to this invitation and are encouraged by the co-operation and enthusiasm which has been displayed during the initial planning stages for the conference.

This year we celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Human Rights Declaration. Yet parts of Southern Africa minority régimes still deny man's basic rights through stubborn opposition to his efforts to achieve quality. Canada recognizes the legitimacy of the struggle to win full human rights and self-determination in Southern Africa and is studying ways to broaden its humanitarian support for those engaged in these efforts. The most effective way to mark this anniversary will be for each nation to redouble its concern to extend human rights to all its people. But concern must be expressed through achievement.

Mankind's occupation of this planet has been neither wise nor far-sighted. Because of our greed, our indifference and our ignorance, we are speeding on a fatal collision course with our environment. The exploitation of our natural resources has been incessant, uncaring and exhaustive. Our air and our waters are becoming foul and poisonous. We seem to be incapable of feeding and clothing adequately our growing millions. We are unable to live peacefully together or share our bounty so that all may live a life of dignity.

Although there is no doubt that in some circumstances the agencies of the United Nations can and do move swiftly, on the whole no one can accuse this organization of approaching its problems with unseemly haste. Too many items have taken up permanent annual residence on the agenda. Still some progress is being made. The increasing universality of the United Nations is an outstanding example.