

Republic of Korea seeking dialogue and reconciliation without conditions, and we hope for the greater integration of the Peninsula into the international community.

The extent to which local or regional conflicts draw their energy from mutually-antagonistic ideological systems is also cause for considerable concern. In recent years, the breakdown of detente and an increasing anxiety over the unpredictability of events have fuelled public fears of nuclear war. Our peoples fear that everything is at risk: the economic and technological systems which sustain us, the political and social systems which underpin them, and the very biosphere which permits the existence of life itself.

The world had high hopes for the second United Nations Special Session on Disarmament. When the Session ended without having reached final agreement on a comprehensive program of disarmament, there was much disappointment and frustration. However, a disservice is done to the Special Session, and to the UN as an institution, if it is simply dismissed as a failure. Of course the results were disappointing. But then, the expectations of many were probably unrealistically high given the prevailing international climate. Moreover, in this climate, it is essential that the campaign for nuclear disarmament be waged at the negotiating table. My country strongly supports the present negotiations in Geneva to limit and reduce the level of nuclear arms.

Canada has chosen to contribute to the arms control and disarmament process by concentrating on the vital issue of verification. We are doing this through participating in the international seismic data exchange and by substantially increasing research in verification. I would appeal to other member states to consider how their particular circumstances and resources might be drawn upon to contribute to the arms control process. It is basically the same question as with development: given the need for selectivity, what can you contribute?

I have evoked today a set of perplexing and inter-related economic and political problems. What is the UN's capacity to respond to these? The question is an urgent one, because the UN -- with its Specialized Agencies -- addresses virtually the entire range of human concerns.

Within the UN, crisis management capacity has been called seriously into question by divisions within the Security Council, by an erosion of the constitutional