

Canada could not continue its commitment forever to open-ended peacekeeping missions that provide little real incentive for parties involved to resolve their disputes and are a heavy financial burden. She also told the UN Secretary-General that without some signs of progress in the political situation in Cyprus, Canada would be withdrawing its troops.

The Secretary of State for External Affairs has met the main parties to the conflict in Cyprus on several occasions, emphasizing the importance of working with the UN Secretary-General to reach a permanent solution to the conflict. In spring 1992, Mrs. McDougall visited the region to assess the situation and to review Canada's peacekeeping operation. During her visit, she met with key leaders to discuss prospects for resolving the conflict.

Mrs. McDougall has held discussions on the Cyprus issue with the U.S. and countries contributing troops to UNFICYP, including Britain, Denmark and Austria. In June 1992, Denmark announced that it would be withdrawing its peacekeeping contingent from Cyprus by year's end. Britain and Austria have announced plans to reduce the number of military personnel in Cyprus.

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