

- The Bosnian government should immediately cease using safe areas to organize and launch military offensives.
- We would demand that Belgrade set a firm date for recognizing Bosnia in exchange for more flexibility in the lifting of sanctions.

The crisis of the past few days has shaken the UN and sown seeds of doubt as to whether the international community is willing and able to intervene effectively in the territory of the former Yugoslavia. We must continue to support the UN and to face opposition from Bosnian Serbs, even if this involves using force to ensure the protection of peacekeepers. Likewise, it is essential that Bosnian Muslims cease using UNPROFOR as a shield to protect them and to advance their military objectives.

On several occasions since the start of the conflict, Canada and many others have stressed the need for concerted action to find a negotiated settlement to the conflict. For all sorts of reasons, some players have chosen to act on their own. Better coordination of the activities of the international community is now demanded, not by Canada or any other country, but by the situation itself. Troop-contributing countries and the UN cannot negotiate piecemeal with Serb forces in the event of hostage takings and confrontations. We must seize this opportunity to renew our collective efforts and to bring them to fruition, if we wish to ensure the security of our soldiers and to continue making progress in seeking a negotiated settlement to the conflict in the former Yugoslavia.

Thank you.