

arsenals of Russia and the US. He has urged Ukraine, Belarus and Kazakhstan to carry out their pledges to honour START and to sign the NPT as non-nuclear-weapon states. There is no rational reason for delaying this process. Any imagined advantage of using nuclear weapons as bargaining chips is far outweighed by the dangers. Adherence to these non-proliferation principles is fundamental to the process of expanding cooperation between Canada and these new states.

Canada believes that the NPT must be indefinitely extended in 1995 and the goal of universal adherence relentlessly pursued. Recalling the basic "bargain" on horizontal and vertical non-proliferation implicit in the NPT, Prime Minister Mul-

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rony has also urged that the 1995 extension conference confirm that relationship. To help pave the way, he called specifically for all nuclear-weapon states to agree to a moratorium on the testing of nuclear weapons. Canada views the recent US decision to join France and Russia in declaring a testing moratorium as a watershed in the long-standing international effort to achieve a total ban on such tests in all environments for all time. We call on the UK and China to join them. Perhaps even more important is the US commitment not to test at all after 1996 provided other nuclear-weapon states refrain as well. We urge the other four nuclear-weapon states to make a mutually-reinforcing commitment to this end.

Prime Minister Mulroney also called for progress on the issue of security assurances for non-nuclear-weapon States Parties to the NPT. The proposal by President Bush in his General Assembly address that the Security Council take up this issue is a most timely and important one.

Former UN Under-Secretary-General Brian Urquhart wrote recently that the basis for global arms control and disarmament — as foreseen by the architects of the UN Charter — was to be a collective security system that would provide the "sense of security and mutual confidence"

that would allow for arms limitation to take place. Since the demise of the Cold War, we are learning just how hard it is to put that collective security system in place in a positive and enduring fashion. In Canada's view, a credible assurance by the Security Council to all non-nuclear-weapon States Parties to the NPT could be a significant step forward in creating the post-Cold War architecture of cooperative security.

CWC

Turning to the work before this year's session of the First Committee, Canada echoes the views of all the delegations before me on the historical importance of the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) negotiated in the Conference on Disarmament (CD). It is the first multilateral disarmament agreement with effective verification provisions that bans an entire class of weapons of mass destruction. It is comprehensive and calls for a complete prohibition on the development, production, stockpiling, retention or use of chemical weapons and their precursors. It is global and already, like Canada, a significant number of states from all geographic regions have indicated they will support it and be original signatories. Because it establishes new norms of verification and inspection that far surpass any previous multilateral arms control and disarmament instruments, in Canada's view it is a peace-setting agreement.

For many years now, Canada and Poland, working together in the UN, have introduced a resolution supporting the work of the Conference on Disarmament on the Chemical Weapons Convention and urging its early completion. This year we are joined by Germany which, under the most able and dedicated leadership of Ambassador Von Wagner, chaired the CD Ad Hoc Committee on Chemical Weapons to its successful conclusion.

As one of the 133 co-sponsors to the draft resolution, we urge all Member States to endorse the resolution and the Convention itself. Let us set the stage for the signing conference in Paris in early 1993 and, as Ambassador Von Wagner stated, let us seize this "singular opportunity to lay the foundation of a new cooperative concept of international security."

NPT

During this session of the First Committee we will have before us a resolution that will begin the preparatory process for the 1995 NPT extension conference. Without the NPT there can be neither nuclear security nor peaceful nuclear trade. Canada pledges its full cooperation in bringing about a smooth launching of this vitally important process.

CTBT

The conclusion of a comprehensive nuclear test ban treaty (CTBT) has long been a fundamental Canadian arms control objective. Nuclear testing moratoria are an important step towards this end, clearing the way for the negotiation itself. Canada congratulates President Bush for signing into law a bill that not only takes that step but, in addition, commits the Administration to submitting annually to Congress a plan for achieving a comprehensive ban on the testing of nuclear weapons on or before September 30, 1996.

In our view, this law embodies a clear political commitment by the US to negotiate in good faith a CTBT within a reasonable time frame. Moreover, this political commitment is reinforced by the fact that Congress will have the opportunity to annually review the plans of the executive branch on the achievement of a successful outcome to the negotiation.

In light of these momentous developments, Canada hopes for even broader support on the CTBT resolution than last year, when two related resolutions were, for the first time, successfully merged.

Cut-off

Canada will once again introduce our traditional resolution regarding a prohibition on the production of fissionable material for weapons or other nuclear explosive devices. We regard this as a timely call supporting global non-proliferation objectives. In light of recent important developments regarding the disposition of fissionable material as a result of the dismantlement of nuclear weapons and the US decision to unilaterally cease the production of fissionable material for weapons purposes, we hope for even broader support than in the past for this resolution.