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SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS' VIEWS
ON UNSSOD II

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Mark MacGuigan, in his keynote address to the 25th Anniversary Commemorative Meeting of the Pugwash Movement at Pugwash Nova Scotia today, spoke of the second UN Special Session on Disarmament which ended last week. While UNSSOD II "did not achieve all that many people and governments hoped for", he said, "it did serve to focus attention on the crucial and often complex arms control and disarmament issues of our time".

Highlighting the active Canadian role at UNSSOD II, he underlined the importance Canada attaches to giving an impetus to the negotiating process through the policy of stabilization which Prime Minister Trudeau had proposed. Dr. MacGuigan also drew attention to Canada's traditional role as Chairman of the Barton Group, the consultative body of like-minded Western countries and to Canada's key contribution in promoting agreement on a world disarmament campaign.

Dr. MacGuigan outlined Canadian view on current negotiations to reduce nuclear weapons and described the new draft treaty tabled last week at the Vienna talks on reducing conventional forces in Europe. He stressed the high priority Canada attaches to an agreement on chemical weapons. In addition to referring to the new initiatives on arms control and disarmament which he announced on July 7, the Minister spoke of Canada's non-proliferation policy and of the expanding role in verification, "one of the most significant factors is disarmament negotiations in the 1980's".