

them responsible for the fate of all their citizens. Certainly their citizens must be able to exercise the fundamental human right to leave their homeland if they so wish. Canada has repeatedly stressed the obligation of all countries to honour this basic right.

But the governments of the countries of exodus have the paramount responsibility to ensure that departures of their citizens take place in a safe and orderly manner, and without threat or penalty of any kind. The international community rejects as an unconscionable violation of human rights the attempt to expel or otherwise eliminate any ethnic community or any socio-economic group. Only if the countries of origin respond to these humane and just demands will it be possible for the problem to be solved rather than the symptoms merely alleviated. This must be fully emphasized in the summing-up of our meeting.

Canada thanks you for calling this meeting. It is a tribute to your high office, and to yourself, that your call has had so large a response. Canada is doing what she can in these dreadful circumstances. May no country leave this hall unable to say the same.