

OTTAWA, ONTARIO
K1A 0G2

October 24, 1985.

Excellency,

On behalf of the Government and people of Canada it is my pleasure to convey to you and to all those associated with the UN family of organizations our warmest wishes on this very special occasion of the fortieth anniversary of the founding of the United Nations.

We view this most important anniversary as much more than just a routine commemoration. It owes much of its significance to your own initiative in alerting the member states of the United Nations to the need to recommit themselves to the principles of the United Nations Charter and to the strengthening of the Organization, all the more essential in light of continuing challenges to the international community. It is an occasion for reflection on past achievements and, much more vitally, on the nature of international relationships in the future of which the UN will be the core. I am convinced that your anniversary initiative has already borne fruit, by turning the attention of all member governments to the need for a revitalized UN. The commemorative session of the General Assembly now taking place is eloquent witness to this fact. But this is only a beginning: the process should involve changes in the way we work in the UN and, even more important, sustained recognition by member governments of the UN's significance to each and every member state and the need therefore to keep it in good working order.

* Like you, Canada views this anniversary as an opportunity for strengthening the UN. We have been seeking

.../2

His Excellency Javier Pérez de Cuéllar
1 United Nations Plaza
New York, N.Y.
10017