

POLICY SEMINAR ON FOREIGN AND DEFENCE ISSUES,
VAL MORIN, QUEBEC, AUGUST 20-22, 1983

CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Allan J. MacEachen,
Deputy Prime Minister and Secretary
of State for External Affairs

OPENING SESSION: THE POLICY SETTING

Chairman: This is the third in the series of policy seminars that will have been conducted under the leadership of the Prime Minister and the Prime Minister's Office. There have been two previous seminars which have brought together government and non-government people to explore new policy approaches, if such are possible, in particular areas, and this particular seminar, which will continue tonight, tomorrow and Monday morning, will deal with the question of security. The broad issues that are involved in that overall question and Canada's national security will be very much in our minds. In the course of our discussions we will be examining the foundation, the principles that have been at the root of our security policy, and asking whether the changing world environment might not cause us to adopt new approaches. That question will certainly be on our minds, but before launching into the discussion of this evening I would like to ask Mr. Tom Axworthy, the principal secretary of the Prime Minister, who has attended the two previous seminars, to outline to us the format and the process that we will be following tonight, tomorrow and Monday morning.

Tom Axworthy: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'd like to join Mr. MacEachen in welcoming you all to Canada, to Val Morin, especially the visitors from abroad. We found that in our past sessions that the mixture of different points of view