

- Finally, we encouraged the United States, the United Kingdom and China to follow the lead of France and Russia in implementing an immediate moratorium on nuclear testing and to summon up the will to negotiate a Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty.

We also kept up the pressure on the United Nations in a number of other areas, including the follow-up to the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) in Rio de Janeiro, where our Prime Minister took the lead in bringing a number of major powers to accept Conventions on Biodiversity and Climate Change; and our continuing demands for more women to be appointed or elected to key positions in the United Nations and other global and regional organizations.

A major part of my speech to the General Assembly was devoted to the problem of resolving conflicts within nations. As we have seen, the anticipated calm of a post-Soviet Union, post-Cold War world has already been ruptured too frequently by vicious and violent local and regional conflicts that have the potential to spread to neighbouring areas and beyond.

Old ethnic rivalries, festering jealousies and the inevitable lust for property and power have created new warlords, many out of control, whose actions threaten the peace and security of the world.

They also threaten many of our old notions about national sovereignty. The continuing situation in post-Gulf War Iraq, especially the treatment of minority groups such as the Kurds, continues to cry out for expanded thinking on the obligations for and the limits of interventions by the world community.

For Canada's part, we put forward very specific recommendations for eliminating the potential for conflict within nations, based on a trilogy that may already be familiar to some of you: the promotion and protection of individual human rights; the development of democratic values and institutions; and the establishment of responsive and responsible choices in the development and management of public policy, what we have come to call "good governance."

It is our contention that these three elements are essential for peace and self-sufficiency.

And we made the point -- again with no holds barred -- that our own assistance to developing countries would be increasingly tied to their own progress in these three areas.

Some may question the imposition of our own Western ideology, our own particular social and economic structures, and our political and judicial practices on societies that do not share our intellectual traditions, our historical experience or our economic achievements.