

CANADIAN POSITION

Canada has urged Israel repeatedly to abide by the Fourth Geneva Conventions, bilaterally (eg.during President Herzog's visit), through ministerial statements, and through speeches and votes in various U.N. fora. Since election to the UN Security Council and at the Commission on Human Rights, Canada has spoken out strongly to reiterate our position that human rights violations by Israeli authorities are unacceptable and contrary to international law. Canada has voted for UN Security Council and General Assembly resolutions which support this position.

On 30 March 1989, the Right Honourable Joe Clark announced that Canada has endorsed the principle of self-determination for the Palestinian people, to be exercised through peace negotiations, a principle enshrined in the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. This announcement addressed the broader issue of a lasting settlement, in recognition that, for there to be a just and lasting solution, the rights of the Palestinians must be respected.