



- As the cornerstone of a rules-based international system, the UN is a vital forum through which we have sought to influence world affairs, to defend our security and sovereignty within a stable global framework, to promote our trade and economic interests, and to protect and project Canadian values such as fairness, equal opportunity and respect for human rights.
- Canadians have taken major roles within the UN, and many of the organization's great accomplishments have had a Canadian dimension. For example, John Peters Humphrey was the principal author of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, proclaimed in December 1948; Lester B. Pearson developed the concept of peacekeeping during the 1956 Suez Crisis; and Maurice Strong chaired both the 1972 United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, in Stockholm, and the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, in Rio de Janeiro, serving as well as founding Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Program.
- Canada has been elected to the powerful UN Security Council on six different occasions, serving terms in 1948-49, 1958-59, 1967-68, 1977-78, 1989-90 and 1999-2000.
- During our latest tenure on the Security Council, our priorities revolved around issues of human security, such as the protection of civilians in armed conflict, war-affected children, conflict prevention, peacebuilding, mass refugee flows, illicit small-arms trafficking, gross abuses of human rights, and failures of governance and the rule of law.
- Canada is a member of many of the UN specialized agencies, including the International Civil Aviation Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization, the World Health Organization and the UN High Commissioner for Refugees. Canada is also active in the work of the International Monetary Fund, the UN Development Program, the World Food Program, the UN Environment Program and other bodies.