

In seeking to make the United Nations more effective as an instrument of peace and social and economic progress, to what extent are we prepared to commit our human and financial resources and to take up our international responsibilities?

One thing is certain. Canada does not have the means or the power to settle every dispute, to correct every injustice or to feed all the world's starving, but we must remain faithful to the values that have inspired our foreign policy, namely:

- the promotion and protection of fundamental individual human rights;
- the development of democratic values and institutions;
- the establishment of "good government," that is, responsible decision-making by governments, supported by responsive public administrations; and
- the dismantling of barriers to international trade, in order to expand the world's prosperity base.

We can continue to play a leading part in the world if we are well organized and willing to work with other countries. The keys to success will be co-operation and dialogue, not only internationally, but within our society. It is essential that we in government have the ideas, viewpoints and expertise of Canadians such as yourselves.

I invite you to share your ideas on the role that Canada should play in the coming years concerning peacekeeping and the promotion of universal values. I welcome your ideas with interest and with an open mind.

Thank you.