

# News Release

Department of  
External  
Affairs



# Communiqué

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UNITED NATIONS SECRETARY GENERAL'S REPORT ON THE  
SITUATION IN THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Right Honourable Joe Clark, today welcomed the UN Secretary General's analysis of the situation in the occupied territories, expressed appreciation for the identification of realistic and practicable measures for the safety of their population and for the report's emphasis on the need to find a political solution to the current situation.

Consistent with Canada's long standing position that the Fourth Geneva Convention applies to the territories, Canada would be prepared to join with other contracting parties to that Convention in an appeal to the Government of Israel to apply its provisions to the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Violations of the Geneva Convention, including human rights abuses and settlements, are unacceptable and damaging to the peace process. By applying the Convention, Israel would provide significant confirmation of its willingness to encourage a climate for peaceful negotiations.

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Secretary of State  
for  
External Affairs

Secrétaire d'État  
aux  
Affaires extérieures

Canada