

reached bilaterally between India and Pakistan, restoring the conditions of peace and future co-operation in the subcontinent, has been warmly welcomed by the world community.

All of us are, in some degree, affected by these deliberations and decisions, and we recognize that it is the nature of our world's society that all of us do not have the opportunity to contribute to the decision-making, as we should wish, through this world forum. As the Secretary-General has said in his excellent introduction to the annual report:

"It is necessary to emphasize that there is no inevitable clash between bilateral and multi-lateral diplomacy. They are, or should be, mutually supporting, each having particular advantages in particular situations. There is no single road to peace -- we have to try all roads."

But we should never fail to assert the interest and the primacy of this organization where it has an indispensable role to play.

Such was Canada's view at the International Conference on Viet-Nam held early this year in Paris. I attempted to have the United Nations and the United Nations Secretary-General firmly integrated into the peace-observation machinery which was being established at that Conference. These efforts failed.

After five months of efforts to play the role of an impartial international observer, we withdrew from the International Commission for Control and Supervision in Viet-Nam, frustrated but by no means embittered.

Canada remains prepared to play its part in peace-keeping and peace observation. But we have learned a lesson from our long and frustrating attempts to have these peacekeeping bodies operate objectively. The lesson is this -- peacekeeping and peace-observation operations stand the best chance of success if they are conducted under the authority of the United Nations Security Council.

We have long assumed that progress in technology, agriculture and communications would mean progress for the underprivileged -- a ladder on which people could climb away from hunger, disease and degradation. Yet, tragically, the word "progress" has come to mock us. The gap between rich and poor is wider than ever. Material achievements are threatened by spiralling world inflation.