I am not sure if this is a result of post-Cold War complacency, satisfaction with the Pax Americana, or ignorance of what is really happening in the world.

Perhaps this 50th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights will stimulate some thinking on these matters and help turn this situation around. I have already referred to a whole catalogue of human rights violations in all corners of the globe. Not only do these violations cause conflict in the countries and regions where they arise, thay also very often cause instability and threaten the peace throughout the world, including Canada. Civil wars and human rights abuses in Somalia, for example, resulted in waves of refugees landing on Canada's shores, peacekeeping operations, and emergency aid. There are many other similar examples. All of these cost much more than would a preventive program dealing with conflict resolution, development assistance, and technical aid relating to human rights and democratic development (the work carried out by our Centre).

Since public support for international human rights is essential, it is important that organizations such as yours and mine - not only speak to each other - but reach out to inform and educate the general public. (As I said earlier, Canada can, and has recently made a very significant difference - with both land mines and the ICC - but will only continue to do so if there is a vibrant, informed Canadian constituency supporting and demanding that we do so. ) There must be enough Canadians who want their government and the UN to do this - that is to make a difference, in improving human rights and democracy - in Canada and throughout the world.

I be contrained prody states to comply with their treaty abligations. Without the work of aou-governmental organizations, the committee would have to rely on the states themselves.

The commutes has a number of shortcomings, its sessions are protocted and talky. It has a large backlog of cases. Country reports are often overdate. The contenties moves slowly and has only half the professional resources it had 10 years ago. It means to become more fromed, more disciplined, its work and that of other constrainters dealing with human rights could be consolidated, since aften the same human regime cases could be taken up under different UN conventions. The contraintee could work through smaller mades

Human matter work at the UN sufficien from a sections resource problem. Only 1.6 percent of the regular budget of the UN goes to farmen notice. In my view this is totally unacceptable. Countries mould be asked to provide more money carrientized to variates areas in the human rights field where it acceled most. Canada's contribution to human rights motivation is yery small.

Casada should encourage countries without ombadances or human rights commissions to establish

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