

upon which an enduring peace can be built." He said, however, that "the problem is security. Whether we like it or not, nations have not reached the state of altruism where they will disarm for the sake of development. They arm because they feel their security to be threatened. Only when the threat to security is lessened is real disarmament possible." He noted that, paradoxically, "the inflated arms race itself becomes a threat to security" and that "underdevelopment is itself a growing non-military threat to security."<sup>70</sup>

Canada's non-governmental organizations are less enthusiastic about the outcome of the conference and are critical of Canada's role and objectives. Groups such as Project Ploughshares (the coalition of churches in disarmament work), the Group of 78, the Canadian Council for International Cooperation and Canadian World Federalists had an opportunity for participation and some direct influence on Canada's position and even the conference Final Document. As the UN Association of Canada put it:

Canadian NGOs were kept abreast of conference developments by Mr. Douglas Roche, Canada's Ambassador for Disarmament, who met twice weekly with them in the Canadian Mission to the UN. At these meetings, the ambassador, assisted by officials of the Canadian delegation, not merely briefed the NGOs on the changing views and diplomatic alignments at the conference but entered into discussions with them regarding the significance of the conference for Canada and for the international community. It must also be recorded that the only specific reference to non-governmental organizations which is to be found in item 8 of the Final Document came as a direct result of Canadian intervention with the other delegations.<sup>71</sup>

But the NGOs were not happy. In general they felt that the conference failed to address a number of vital issues and that the consensus process produced a Final Document that is weak.

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<sup>70</sup> Douglas Roche, "UN Designs Two Pillars to Shore Up World Security," Globe and Mail, 15 September 1987, p.A7.

<sup>71</sup> The International Conference on the Relationship Between Disarmament and Development, UN Association of Canada Briefing Paper, Edward R. Appathurai, March 1988, p.2.