

dispassionately and impartially allegations of human rights violations. The better it is seen to function, the more confidence this organization will command and the less individual governments will feel bound to call for action against others for gross and persistent violations of human rights.

We believe that the United Nations can improve its investigation of allegations of human rights violations. We welcome, therefore, as a significant precedent, the decision of the Government of Chile to receive an investigating group. My Government also considers that the capacity of the Office of the Secretary General to investigate and to intercede when necessary, as well as its authority to do so, should be augmented. Canada further proposes that the Bureau of the Commission on Human Rights be empowered to meet between sessions to consider apparent serious violations of human rights and, when necessary, to make its views known to governments.

Human rights can be violated in many ways, but surely one of the most despicable is international terrorism. Innocent lives are placed in jeopardy, while the culprits often go unpunished or even undetected. Terrorism holds our society to ransom, and threatens governments in all parts of the world. There must be no confusion between ends and means. Terrorism is beyond the bounds of legitimate dissent. It degrades every cause it claims to serve. The international community, which is pledged to eliminate war as an instrument of policy, can hardly accept terrorism as a tolerable aspect of international life.

Resolution 32/8 adopted by consensus at the last session of the General Assembly dealt with a specific aspect of terrorism, -- hijacking. That resolution called on governments to take joint and separate action to ensure the safety of civil aviation and it was strongly endorsed by the Canadian delegation. We have continued to stress the need for further international action to combat terrorism in all its manifestations. Prime Minister Trudeau's initiative in developing and presenting a declaration on hijacking at the