

Rights regarding the right to self-determination of sovereign states. These principles have been wantonly abused in Kampuchea, where over 200,000 foreign occupation troops uphold a régime of their own creation. The international community cannot accept this total disregard of these principles; principles which I note have been often espoused in the past by the offending party in this case. Canada believes that those nations not represented here today still share these universal principles, and Canada urges these countries to honour these principles in practice as well as theory in the interests of global peace and security. I use the word "global" advisedly: we know only too well that what happens in Indochina reverberates tragically throughout the region, and echoes around the world.

**Need of basis
for free
Kampuchea**

It is less important why Vietnam invaded Kampuchea and why it continues to occupy that country than that there should be a rectification of the violations of international law which have occurred there. Canada, for one, is not much interested in loud and emotional recriminations against Vietnam for its actions in Kampuchea. We wish only to see created the conditions necessary to establish a government in Kampuchea which, in the best and most practical way, reflects the political will of the broadest number of Kampuchean people. Canada believes that this view is shared by the countries gathered here. We have come here not to denounce Vietnam but to establish the basis for a free and independent Kampuchea.

How long must the Kampuchean people suffer? Indeed, how long must the Vietnamese people suffer while the government of that country continues to expend its resources on military pursuits? The Khmer nation has recovered from the brink of annihilation and the atrocities of the Pol Pot régime in the past two years. This has been due to the outstanding assistance of the United Nations' agencies, the International Red Cross and many non-governmental agencies. The generous and humanitarian response of countries of first asylum in Southeast Asia to refugees from Indochina is especially noteworthy.

A return to the genocidal policies of Pol Pot can never — must never — happen. I know that there is universal agreement to this conclusion. However, the great humanitarian achievement in Kampuchea will mean nothing if Kampuchea remains in conflict and if the Kampuchean people are not allowed to develop their country free from outside interference. War is the principal enemy of development, and it exacts, in the short term and in the long term, terrible costs from everyone.

**Is the suffering
necessary?**

Canada has been involved in efforts to achieve stability, development and progress in Southeast Asia for many years. We have seen the costs which war has inflicted upon the Indochinese states, and the benefits which peace has brought to other countries of the region. In this respect the urgent question uppermost in our minds must be: "Is the suffering necessary?" We insist that political ends, born of unnecessary fear and mistrust can never justify perpetual human suffering and the denial of fundamental human rights.

We have had presented to us proposals for a solution to the Kampuchean problem which includes, among other things, proposals for a cease-fire agreement among the conflicting parties, the creation of the United Nations' peacekeeping force for Kam-