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CANADA PAYS ITS CONTRIBUTION TO THE UNITED NATIONS ON THE FIRST WORKING DAY OF 1988

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Right Honourable Joe Clark, announced today that Canada was again paying its annual assessed contribution to the United Nations in full on the first working day of 1988. Canada's Ambassador and Permanent Representative, Mr. Stephen Lewis presented to Mr. Martti Ahtisaari, the Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations for Administration and Management, a cheque for \$US 22,172,754 (equal to about \$Cdn 28.977 million), Canada's 3.06% share of the UN regular budget.

Mr. Clark noted that, despite the adoption of major reform measures by the United Nations in late 1986, and despite stringent economy measures taken by the Secretary-General in 1987, the financial crisis of the Organization worsened significantly through the year. This was due in large measure to a failure to pay by one major contributor, the United States, whose accumulated arrears represent about 30% of the UN's annual budget. Mr. Clark urged all Member States to meet their Charter obligations.

Mr. Clark added that Canada has also paid its 1988 contributions to most of the major international organizations of the UN family including the World Health Organization (WHO), the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), the International Labour Organization (ILO), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) and the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO).

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Secretary of State
for
External Affairs

Secrétaire d'État
aux
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Canada