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# news release

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## CANADA INTRODUCES UN RESOLUTION PROHIBITING THE PRODUCTION OF FISSIONABLE MATERIAL FOR NUCLEAR WEAPONS

Foreign Affairs Minister André Ouellet today announced that Canada had advanced its long-standing objective on international nuclear non-proliferation, with the successful introduction of a resolution on fissionable material at the United Nations First Committee (Arms Control and Disarmament) in New York.

The Resolution on the Prohibition of Fissionable Material for Nuclear Weapons or Other Nuclear Explosive Devices was adopted by consensus. Canada's resolution was co-sponsored by 28 countries including the United States, India, Japan, Belarus and Sweden.

The resolution calls for an internationally negotiated treaty that would prohibit the production of such fissionable material.

The successful adoption of this resolution is the culmination of a long-standing Canadian arms control and disarmament policy, first enunciated in 1978 by then-Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau when he addressed the UN First Special Session on Disarmament. In his speech, he proposed a "strategy of suffocation" comprised of two components: negotiation of a Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT), and an agreement to prohibit production of fissionable material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices. With the beginning of negotiations on a CTBT in Geneva next January, both objectives now appear to be in reach.

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