

in attendant political conditions so that we may have reasonable assurances that technical conferences such as the Fifth U.N. Congress on Crime Prevention will be useful and productive. We hope that current negotiations for the reduction of tensions between some of the parties to the Middle East conflict will prove successful in coming months; and we will actively support the continuing efforts of the parties directly involved and of the United States Government toward that goal.

Furthermore, the next General Assembly of the United Nations will provide an opportunity to affirm the principle of universality, as a fulfilment of what ought to be a basic aim of the United Nations. More specifically, we will resist any attempt to exclude Israel or any other country from the proceedings of the General Assembly. Acceptance of this principle would guarantee the status of Israel within the community of nations, and thus remove one cause of instability in the area.

So that in requesting the postponement of the Congress, Canada is not shirking its responsibilities but actually taking on new ones. Through new initiatives, both bilateral and multilateral, the Government will try to improve the political situation in the Middle East and in the U.N., notably through our participation in the next session of the General Assembly, which may be crucial for the future of the organization, given the fundamental character of the issues on which debates are expected to focus. Canada will consult