

# Canada Weekly

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## Canada focuses on problems of developing countries at United Nations

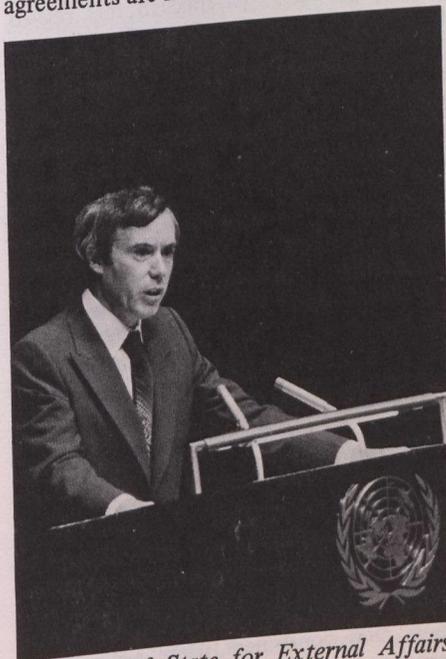
*The Canadian government will create a Futures Secretariat to make Canadians aware of North/South issues and will make "every effort" to ensure that these important problems are given greater attention and urgent consideration internationally, Secretary of State for External Affairs Mark MacGuigan said in a speech delivered to the eleventh special session of the United Nations General Assembly in New York, August 26. Excerpts from the speech entitled, Development: A Global Search for the Future, follow:*

We are here to consider our future — not just the future of the developing world, but the future of all of us, developed and developing countries together. There can be no real peace in the world so long as almost a billion people live in the helplessness of absolute poverty. There can be no enduring stability so long as so many nations remain dangerously vulnerable to economic uncertainty. There can be no meaningful security so long as the poorer countries remain unable to meet the development aspirations of their people.

...Canada feels that the methods we used five years ago to reach general global agreements are not necessarily appropriate

today. At that time, we were attempting to achieve comprehensive and fairly generalized agreements on a number of broad policy objectives. Today we are called on to translate those generalized agreements into concrete economic results. As a result, different methods of negotiation need to be found — methods which take account, for example, of the development prospects of individual countries, of the situation of individual countries as exporters or importers of energy, as exporters or importers of manufactured products, as producers or consumers of commodities, and of capacities to achieve greater self-sufficiency in food. Canada will, therefore, do its utmost in the forthcoming negotiations to go beyond generalized approaches and into the specific opportunities each area of consideration offers....

The most compelling of our challenges remains the plight of the world's poorest people, almost a billion of whom live on the borderline of human existence. This is unacceptable and intolerable to the global conscience. We must ensure that they have access to the most fundamental of human requirements: food, shelter, health care, sanitation, clean water, education — things which all humans have a right to expect. The draft of the International Development Strategy identifies qualitative goals for these requirements to which we all subscribe: to prolong life expectancy, to end illiteracy, to enhance health standards, to improve nutrition. But there must also be quantitative goals for the poorest countries. They need material assistance, and of necessity it must come from those countries which are richer. To launch such a war on world



*Secretary of State for External Affairs Mark MacGuigan addresses the United Nations General Assembly in New York.*

*Fifteen years ago this week...*

Simon Fraser University in Vancouver, British Columbia was officially opened; in the 1979-80 school year there were 6,024 full-time students and 3,828 part-time students enrolled.