

- 4 -

DEVELOPMENT AND IN ANY AND ALL OTHER APPROPRIATE UNITED NATIONS BODIES TO MAINTAIN AND ENHANCE THE MAINSTREAMING OF WOMEN'S RIGHTS. IN THIS CONTEXT, CANADA STRONGLY SUPPORTS THE CALL FOR THE COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS TO APPOINT A SPECIAL RAPPORTEUR ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AT ITS NEXT SESSION. WE ALSO CALL UPON THE COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN TO BEGIN TO DEVELOP AN OPTIONAL PROTOCOL TO THE CONVENTION ON THE ELIMINATION OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN TO ENCOMPASS THE ISSUE OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN.

CANADA REMAINS COMMITTED TO THE PRINCIPLE THAT WOMEN'S RIGHTS ARE AN INTEGRAL AND INDIVISIBLE PART OF UNIVERSAL HUMAN RIGHTS. WHILE WE ARE PLEASED WITH THE PROGRESS MADE AT THE VIENNA CONFERENCE, WE ARE FULLY AWARE OF THE NEED TO MAINTAIN THE MOMENTUM ON THIS ISSUE. THEREFORE, WE REPEAT OUR PREVIOUS APPEALS THAT THE ISSUES RELATED TO THE ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN'S EQUALITY BE INTEGRATED INTO THE AGENDA OF THE 1994 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT, AND IN THE PREPARATIONS FOR THE 1995 WORLD SUMMIT ON SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT.

MR. CHAIRMAN,

THERE IS, OF COURSE, ONE FORTHCOMING WORLD CONFERENCE WHERE WOMEN'S EQUALITY ISSUES WILL BE FRONT AND CENTRE. THE 1995 WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN ENJOYS STRONG SUPPORT IN CANADA. WE BELIEVE THE CONFERENCE WILL NOT ONLY ALLOW US TO REVIEW AND APPRAISE OUR COLLECTIVE SUCCESS IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FORWARD-LOOKING STRATEGIES (ADOPTED AT THE NAIROBI WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN IN 1985), BUT PROVIDE AN EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY TO PLAN AND PROMOTE A MUCH-NEEDED "PHASE TWO"- BETTER KNOWN AS THE PLATFORM FOR ACTION - FOR THE ULTIMATE ACHIEVEMENT OF EQUALITY BETWEEN WOMEN AND MEN.

EARLIER THIS YEAR, AT THE COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN, CANADA WELCOMED THE APPOINTMENT OF GERTRUDE MONGELLA (OF TANZANIA) AS SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE. AT THAT TIME WE OFFERED THE