On behalf of the Canadian people I wish to convey our warmest wishes to you and all the staff members of the United Nations and its affiliated organizations on the 27th anniversary of the founding of the United Nations. During this session of the General Assembly we have had the opportunity to welcome you to your new position as Secretary-General. You have already shown a vigorous determination to come to grips with many different world problems, a determination which will surely win the admiration of men and women in all walks of life. We are indebted as well to your predicessor who conducted himself with steadfastness, perseverance and dignity for more than ten momentous years.

The United Nations stands today, an organization of 132 sovereign states, full of opportunity for service to all who genuinely wish to achieve the aims envisaged 27 years ago. On the occasion of United Nations Day 1972, Mr. Secretary-General, I am pleased to re-affirm the support of the Canadian Government and people for the United Nations and its goals for the harmonization of relations among nations.