

fore reflects our belief that the perpetuation of the *apartheid* system will result in a continuing deterioration of peace and stability in Southern Africa.

Canada has also expressed its support for a call to governments to review their economic relations with South Africa. Although this element was not incorporated in a Security Council resolution, the Canadian Government nevertheless decided to take certain steps. On December 19, 1977, for example, I announced that Canada was phasing-out Government involvement in commercial relations with South Africa and would issue a code of conduct to govern the behaviour of Canadian companies with operations in South Africa. The Canadian Government will continue to keep its general relations with South Africa under review.

Zimbabwe

My Government is much concerned, too, with the situation in Zimbabwe. We had hoped that the Anglo-American proposals and subsequent action by the Security Council would lead to general agreement. The attempt to follow a different path has had no success, and the country now faces increasing bloodshed and uncertainty. A continuation of the war would also have the gravest consequences for the stability of the region as a whole.

Clearly, an early meeting of all parties to the conflict is essential if there is to be any hope of securing a peaceful settlement on the basis of the generally accepted Anglo-American plan. Canada continues to hope that the plan might still be successful and would be willing, in such circumstances, to offer appropriate assistance.

Middle East

All of us must be heartened by the remarkable progress achieved over the past year towards a just solution to the Middle East conflict. President Sadat's historic visit to Jerusalem less than a year ago and the warm reception given to him by Prime Minister Begin and the Israeli people have had a dramatic sequel in the accords at Camp David. The Government of Canada has sent its congratulations to President Carter, President Sadat and Prime Minister Begin for this act of statesmanship. The prospect of a real and durable peace is now much closer, though serious issues remain to be resolved.

Canada supported and encouraged the negotiating process begun in Jerusalem. We welcomed the bold initiative of President Carter in again bringing the heads of government of Israel and Egypt together at Camp David, and we endorse the agreements reached there. They are a milestone on the long road to peace, a road Canadian soldiers have watched over for more than 20 years. We hope that, after due consideration, the nations concerned will find that the framework established at Camp David constitutes a sound basis for moving towards a general peace settlement.

The process of direct negotiation of the difficult and sensitive issues at the heart of the problem must continue. All parties face agonizing and hard decisions. But my Government is confident that the will exists to take the next steps. Meanwhile, the deliberations of this Assembly should serve to bolster confidence between the parties and to facilitate their negotiations. Surely we must try to avoid recriminations and polemics, now that serious negotiations are under way. I am well aware that deep differences of view exist, nor do I question the sincerity of such views. My plea is that
