

The Gulf crisis brought Canada closer to our friends in this region. That crisis was a period of great challenge. We now have before us a period of great opportunity -- an opportunity to build a new type of coalition, one for peace and prosperity for our two countries.

On behalf of the delegation of Canadians with me here today, I wish to thank you for your hospitality. I want to encourage you to pursue with them the many opportunities for mutual advantage that exist. Canada regards Dubai as an important partner in this region. I can assure you that we will pursue that partnership with sincerity, commitment and vigour.