

timely investigations into accusations of use; and the appointment of experts for this purpose.⁸ Finally, Resolution 42/37C requested the Secretary General to provide assistance and services required for implementing the final declaration of the second review conference on the BWC, and called upon states to ratify or sign the Convention without delay if they had not yet done so.⁹ All three resolutions were adopted without a vote.

On 8 December 1987, during a cross-Canada speaking tour, Ambassador for Disarmament Douglas Roche referred to the conclusion of a chemical weapons ban as a matter of "paramount importance." Mr. Roche also called upon states to take every step to prevent the transfer of chemical weapons to other states in the interim. In this regard, he recommended following the example of countries which had established export controls on highly toxic chemicals and a warning-list procedure for other chemicals (a practice followed by Canada in co-ordination with other countries since 1984).¹⁰

Early 1988 saw additional expressions of Canadian concern over the use of chemical weapons. On 25 March 1988, Canadian Secretary of State for External Affairs, Joe Clark, condemned the use of such weapons against civilians in Northern Iraq. In addition, Canada asked the UN Secretary General to consider sending experts to investigate the tragedy. The government conveyed its message to Iran and instructed the Iraqi Ambassador to inform his government as well.¹¹

⁸ UNGA Resolution 42/37 (B), 30 November 1987.

⁹ UNGA Resolution 42/37 (C), 30 November 1987.

¹⁰ DEA, Statement 87/71, 8 December 1987, p. 6.

¹¹ DEA Communiqué No. 068, 25 March 1988.