

ITSELF WITH A CONVENTION THAT HAS BEEN APPLIED WITH REMARKABLE SUCCESS ON A WORLD SCALE.

THE CONCEPT OF THE COMMON HERITAGE OF MANKIND LIES AT THE HEART OF THIS CONVENTION THAT HAS GIVEN IT FORM AND SUBSTANCE. THE RESULT HAS BEEN ACTIONS OF WORLDWIDE SIGNIFICANCE. THE WORLD HERITAGE LIST INCLUDES TEN CANADIAN SITES. LET ME SAY THAT I AM VERY PROUD OF THIS.

MR. PRESIDENT, I WOULD LIKE TO SAY TWO THINGS ABOUT ONE OF THESE SITES, THE CITY OF QUEBEC: LAST MONTH, WITH THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL, THE QUEBEC GOVERNMENT AND THE CANADIAN COMMISSION FOR UNESCO, I INAUGURATED A UNESCO LIAISON OFFICE IN QUEBEC CITY. SECONDLY, QUEBEC CITY WILL BE THE VENUE OF A SYMPOSIUM ON WORLD HERITAGE CITIES IN 1991.

MR. PRESIDENT, THE QUESTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS IS ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT ISSUES ADDRESSED BY UNESCO. WE WISH TO SEE A GREATER EFFORT MADE TO EXCHANGE AND DISTRIBUTE INFORMATION ON ALL ACTIVITIES IN THIS FIELD. WE ARE PREPARED TO HELP ACHIEVE THIS.

GOVERNMENTS MUST SHOW THEIR COMMITMENT IN THIS VITAL SECTOR BY TAKING CONCRETE ACTION TO GUARANTEE FULL ENJOYMENT OF AND RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS. IN THIS SPIRIT, CANADA FULLY SUPPORTS, AT ALL LEVELS, THE UNESCO INITIATIVES TO ENCOURAGE THE TEACHING OF HUMAN RIGHTS AS PART OF THE EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM.

MUCH REMAINS TO BE DONE IN BRINGING RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS INTO LINE WITH THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE, ESPECIALLY IN THE FIELD OF COMMUNICATIONS AND DATA PROCESSING GENERALLY. SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL PROGRESS RAISES SOME SERIOUS ETHICAL QUESTIONS. WE ENCOURAGE UNESCO TO DO EVEN MORE TOWARD INCREASING RESEARCH IN THIS SECTOR AND PROMOTING EXCHANGES OF INFORMATION AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION.

MORE ATTENTION NEEDS TO BE GIVEN TO THE QUESTION OF ELIMINATING ALL FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION. THE EMPHASIS MUST BE PLACED ON SETTING THE INTERNATIONAL INSTRUMENTS IN MOTION BY A FIRMER COMMITMENT FROM THE SIGNATORY COUNTRIES AND BY THE DEVELOPMENT OF INTERNAL MECHANISMS TO ENSURE COMPLIANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS IN THOSE INSTRUMENTS.

CONSCIOUS OF ITS OWN RESPONSIBILITIES TOWARD ELIMINATING DISCRIMINATION, THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT HAS SET ITSELF THE TASK OF PROMOTING THE DEVELOPMENT OF A PLURALISTIC SOCIETY THAT TREATS EACH OF ITS MEMBERS WITH FAIRNESS AND RESPECT. IT HAS PASSED A MULTICULTURALISM ACT DESIGNED TO GIVE EVERY CANADIAN AN OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE IN HIS OR HER SOCIETY ON AN EGALITARIAN BASIS, IN ALL WALKS OF LIFE. THIS ACT CONCEPTUALIZES CANADA'S AS A PROGRESSIVE, JUST SOCIETY THAT NEGLECTS NONE OF THE PEOPLES COMPOSING IT.