Democratic development is indispensable to the evolving structure of co-operative security, to which I referred in my October 24 statement to the General Assembly. Just as indispensable, however, are social and economic development, and a healthy global environment. We are faced with a wide variety of challenges: air, soil and water pollution; population growth; disease; drugs; arms control and disarmament; human rights; and the critical issue of women in development.

These issues can only, or best, be addressed at the global level; either because they are themselves global in nature, or because they can be effectively dealt with only if the international community acts together. It is therefore in all our interests that the United Nations be strengthened as it addresses these problems.

The opportunity is before us to usher in a new era of international peace and cooperation. We are faced with danger of equal moment, however, if the international community fails to remain united against such challenges as the blatant aggression of Iraq against Kuwait. The successful implementation of UN Security Council resolutions on this issue might not be quickly or easily achieved, but they must be accomplished - not only for the sake of that one country, but for the common good of all.

Let me assure you of Canada's determination to support the United Nations in meeting both the challenges and opportunities of the 1990s.

Accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.