

Mr. President,

There can be no doubt about Canada's unrelenting opposition to apartheid - what Prime Minister Mulroney has called a massive and institutionalized violation of human rights. Canada has fought against apartheid because we know it is wrong. We also believe that it is an issue where our joining forces with others through the United Nations and the Commonwealth has made a significant difference. These shared efforts have brought us to the point where, with continued steady pressure, we could soon hope to see apartheid in retreat. This vision is now within our reach, but it is not yet within our grasp.

Mr. President,

On behalf of the Canadian delegation, I will explain how Canada will vote on the twelve draft resolutions before us. Some of these resolutions are improved, as was also the case last year, while others show evidence of new and constructive thinking. I hope this welcome trend continues as we approach the Special Session: it enables Canada and others to respond more positively, and brings our overall message closer to the strength of unanimity.