

Wealth alone is not a panacea for all the troubles a society may face. But at least economic success creates the capacity to address the fundamental need for societal change, for structural transformation.

It allows for investment in the future of people, in improving the quality of their lives, in wider international co-operation.

But challenges to stability persist.

I see four principal challenges that must be addressed, four "tasks," as we together approach the twenty-first century.

First is the building of a global framework for security and stability, to help control or eliminate conflicts. It is essential for us to work through the United Nations to support its mission of world peace. It is also critical for Canada and Japan to work together within the Group of Seven leading industrialized countries (G-7) summit process. These organizations are pillars of global stability, buttressed by regional institutions founded on the same principles of co-operation. Through them, we have a shared responsibility for peacekeeping in all of its forms, for arms control and for nuclear non-proliferation.

Through them we must develop a habit of dialogue so that the very idea of resorting to force to resolve problems becomes unthinkable.

And it is through them that Japan is now playing a larger and most welcome role on important international and regional issues.

First, your leaders have shown vision and a determination in bringing about a Japanese role in peacekeeping, in the midst of a complex and sensitive domestic debate. Our peacekeepers now stand side by side in Cambodia. We are co-operating in this area bilaterally as never before, and over time, we hope to see more.

Second, a distinguished Japanese (and a friend with whom I am in frequent contact), Mrs. Ogata, as UN High Commissioner for Refugees, is making a singular contribution to addressing one of the world's great problems.

The second task is to build a regional framework to meet the challenges that Asia-Pacific expansion and development are creating. We need to recognize openly the great institutional weakness in the region; indeed, one could speak of an institutional vacuum. We need to promote shared rules and the imperative of dialogue.

Without these, misunderstandings and isolation could grow. With them, on the other hand, there can be a sense of common purpose