

with UNICEF and the World Health Organization as they co-ordinate this inspiring campaign. For us, the goal of mass immunization exemplifies, in large measure, what the United Nations is all about.

Finally, Mr. President, recent events compel me to address the scourge of international terrorism. By and large, Canada has been spared the ravages of terrorism. Today, this is no longer the case — we too have experienced its pain. No one nation alone can combat terrorism; it demands concerted international action. We must exchange information, there must be nation-to-nation understanding, and we must have international conventions. Those who murder and maim innocent people, those who bring anarchy to civilized society can have no sanctuary, no comfort, no indulgence.

Canada joins with countries around the world in the search for a determined and effective response. We urge all states to support such practical measures as counter-terrorist conventions and the International Civil Aviation Organization's drive to strengthen the security of international air travel.

Canada esteems the United Nations, its record and its potential. Our commitment to the principles of the Charter and to international co-operation is no fashionable pose. For four decades, it has been a motive force of our foreign policy. Time and again, on critical occasions Canada has offered its troops for UN-sponsored peacekeeping roles around the globe.

Canadians are united in one simple conviction: to better the human condition and to achieve international peace and security. Nations acting together can always do much more than nations acting apart.

To be sure, we recognize the imperfections, deficiencies and limitations of the United Nations. That is why we work so hard to improve its functioning; that is why we so strongly support the Secretary-General as he strives to reform it from within. But after all is said and done, Mr. President, we must surely agree with the Secretary-General that where the United Nations is weak it is almost always due to a failure of political will. That kind of failure is not easily reformed. It will change only when sovereign states realize that the principles of the Charter are the signposts that can lead us all towards mutual respect, collective security and lasting peace. Living by these principles offers the best hope for us all. To the fulfillment of these noble and timeless principles, Canada today renews its pledge of loyalty and support.

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