

Among the diverse countries of Asia-Pacific, we are beginning to see more regular patterns of dialogue about security issues.

In Africa and Latin America we would like to see a similar strengthening of regional security structures.

On a global basis, an opportunity exists to develop greater respect for the rule of law and the principles of collective security articulated at the creation of the UN in San Francisco in 1945.

We already have the essential global framework for a new international order -- the United Nations. Our challenge is to strengthen that framework.

More effective use of the UN Charter, a strengthened role for the Secretary General, improved peacemaking and peacekeeping capabilities and more effective emergency humanitarian mechanisms would all help to strengthen the system.

We must also press for firm new commitments on non-proliferation and conventional arms transfers as essential components of a more secure and peaceful international order.

Surely the world community has taken some lessons from the insanity of the Gulf War!

Helping to build a peaceful and stable new international order will require even more than regional and global security. We must also maintain momentum in the area of economic co-operation. One of the ironies of present events in a world where political and security co-operation appear to be growing is the international community's declining commitment to multilateral economic arrangements.

I have already referred to the emergence of regional trading arrangements throughout the 1980s. Canada recognizes the benefits of such arrangements -- hence our involvement in the Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement (FTA) and now in the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) negotiations.

However, we have made it clear that the growth of regional trading arrangements must be built upon the principles of the GATT and complement, not replace, the multilateral system of trade and payments.

I have indicated that there is a link between economic development, political stability and security. All countries must share in the world's bounty -- no one should be bypassed or excluded from progress and prosperity.