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MODEL FOR POSITIVE CHANGE.

UNFORTUNATELY, THE SITUATION IN SUDAN AND SOMALIA IS NOT AS ENCOURAGING. THE PRESENT SUDANESE GOVERNMENT HAS AN UNACCEPTABLE RECORD IN THE VIRTUAL DENIAL OF RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS. THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY MUST DEMAND THAT SUDAN HONOUR ITS RESPONSIBILITIES TO ITS CITIZENS UNDER THE INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS COVENANTS TO WHICH IT IS A PARTY.

SOMALIA HAS NO CIVILIAN ADMINISTRATION TO PROTECT THE RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS OF THE SOMALI PEOPLE. WHEN THE SOMALI PEOPLE THEMSELVES ARE WILLING AND ABLE TO PLACE THEIR CONFIDENCE IN LEADERS WHO WILL RETURN SOMALIA TO THE RULE OF LAW, RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS MAY BEGIN TO EMERGE.

WE APPEAL TO THE PARTIES TO THE CONFLICTS IN BOTH SUDAN AND SOMALIA TO ENGAGE IN SERIOUS PEACE PROCESSES TO PERMIT THE RESTORATION OF THE MOST CRITICAL RIGHTS: THE RIGHT TO LIFE AND THE PHYSICAL INTEGRITY OF THE PERSON.

MR. CHAIRMAN,

SOUTH AFRICA HAS MADE MAJOR STRIDES IN HUMAN RIGHTS OVER THE PAST YEAR. THE LEGAL PILLARS OF APARTHEID HAVE BEEN ABOLISHED, WELL OVER A THOUSAND POLITICAL PRISONERS HAVE BEEN FREED, DETENTION WITHOUT TRIAL AND CAPITAL PUNISHMENT HAVE BEEN SUBSTANTIALLY REFORMED, AND EXILES HAVE BEEN ENABLED TO RETURN HOME.

HOWEVER, MUCH REMAINS TO BE DONE. DESPITE A START IN IMPLEMENTING THE PEACE ACCORD, POLITICAL VIOLENCE STILL CLAIMS FAR TOO MANY LIVES. BLACK SOUTH AFRICANS DO NOT HAVE THE VOTE AND APARTHEID CONTINUES IN EDUCATION AND SOCIAL SERVICES. THE POLITICAL PRISONERS STILL HELD IN SOUTH AFRICA, INCLUDING THE HOMELANDS, MUST BE RELEASED AS A MATTER OF URGENCY.

WE ARE ENCOURAGED BY THE ATTENTION GIVEN TO A BILL OF RIGHTS IN SEVERAL CONSTITUTIONAL PROPOSALS. WITH THE CONVENTION FOR A DEMOCRATIC FUTURE ABOUT TO BEGIN, WE LOOK FORWARD TO REAL CONSTITUTIONAL NEGOTIATIONS AT THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE DATE AND WITH THE WIDEST POSSIBLE PARTICIPATION.

MR. CHAIRMAN,

CANADA IS PLEASED WITH THE ONGOING PROCESS TOWARD DEMOCRATIZATION IN MANY PARTS OF LATIN AMERICA. HOWEVER, DEMOCRACY HAS NOT NECESSARILY GUARANTEED THE PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN ALL COUNTRIES.

FOR EXAMPLE, THERE HAS BEEN SOME PROGRESS MADE OVER THE PAST

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