

These signs of hope should spur the UN to tackle the broad range of important arms control questions before it. Progress on one issue can unlock progress on others.

Canada will strive for a ban on chemical weapons. We will continue to work to ensure that outer space is developed for peaceful purposes. We will be seeking to play an active role in strengthening the Non-Proliferation Treaty. Canada will again be supporting a comprehensive nuclear test ban. This is a fundamental goal and one towards which concrete steps can and should be taken now. Canada welcomes President Reagan's undertaking that the USA is prepared first to move forward on ratification of the Threshold Test Ban Treaty and the Treaty on Peaceful Nuclear Explosions and then to take subsequent measures to further limit and ultimately end nuclear testing.

We urge all nations to cooperate and indeed participate in the development of the verification techniques needed to provide the confidence necessary to ratify these agreements, and which will enable us to plan the subsequent steps which we must take in all areas of arms control. For verification is not just a question of technical capacity but of the political will to reach agreement on the application of technologies and techniques.

In this spirit and in cooperation with others, Canada will continue to work vigorously towards real progress on verification.

A further critical task facing the UN is to buttress the international trade and payments system, now under great strain, and to stimulate the growth so desperately needed in much of the developing world.

We are making some progress. Canada is encouraged by movement forward on the elaboration of the Baker Plan, and by the agreement of Economic Summit countries, at Tokyo, to co-ordinate their economic policies more effectively. We particularly welcomed the unanimity of the agreement in GATT to launch a new round -- the Uruguay Round -- of multilateral trade negotiations. These are all welcome signs of a growing recognition that we must work together in pursuit of a sound and fair international economic system.