

Mr. President, as nations we must acknowledge that not only our economic concerns, but many of our political, social and economic problems are fundamentally international in character. In a world of constant change, the problem of reconciling the fact of interdependence with the imperative of self-determination is one of the biggest challenges facing policy-makers today. But our recognition of the complexities of interdependence, and of its consequences in all aspects of national life, must not be a cause for despair, but rather a call to action. We must take up the challenge of adapting and developing international institutions, and our national perspectives, to these new realities and to the reality of change itself.

Institutions themselves, no matter how they are strengthened, are not enough. What is essential is the determination -- on the part of all countries -- to make these instruments effective. Governments, whatever their particular national perspective, must summon the resolve necessary to confront the pressing international problems of today. To do this requires a shared confidence that, only through international co-operation, can we obtain security, stability and justice in the world.

Mr. President, Canadians have that confidence. We shall dedicate our efforts, not only here in the United Nations, but wherever these problems are addressed, to working to overcome these problems of international scope which touch the lives of us all.