



Secretary of State for External Affairs Barbara McDougall addressing the UN General Assembly in September 1992.

the social and economic agencies of this organization.

A third major weakness that exists within nation states is the inability to make responsible choices in the management of public policy.

Good governance is important because it ensures that adequate attention is paid to social justice, health and education in the provision of government programs and in the distribution of government resources. It also promotes equitable economic opportunity through the development of a free-market system. Ultimately, these are the means to defeat poverty.

Canada's own assistance to developing nations is increasingly tied to their efforts to protect basic human rights, to develop democratic values and institutions, and to undertake "good governance" in their policies and programs. We urge other Member Nations and this General Assembly to adopt a similar philosophy and similar practices if we are to eradicate the seeds of conflict from within nation states.

These are, of course, resolutions for long-term prevention of conflict. We cannot, however, ignore the current state of the world and that is why the Secretary-General's report, *An Agenda for Peace*, is such an important and pivotal document for this General Assembly.

Canada is no stranger to the process of

bringing and keeping peace to all the regions of the world. Of the 45,000 peacekeeping forces currently serving under the UN flag, 4,300 or almost 10 percent are Canadian.

No other nation has made a greater commitment to UN peacekeeping than Canada. Canada has served in virtually every UN peacekeeping mission, and Canadians currently serve in such varied missions as El Salvador, Cambodia, the former Yugoslavia, Somalia and the Middle East.

Our experience in these and other missions has taught us that no two missions are the same, and our experience has taught us that "peacekeeping," which is not even mentioned in the UN Charter, is a dynamic concept that must be further refined to meet the challenges of the 1990s and beyond. Consequently, we are pleased that the Secretary-General consulted so broadly on this matter and that much of our experience and many of our suggestions are reflected in the final report.

Preventive Diplomacy and Peacemaking

We commend the Secretary-General's emphasis on preventive diplomacy and peacemaking as the preferred options. We encourage him to continue to use all of the

means at his disposal to defuse crises, from fact-finding missions to mediation. We consider it a duty of all Member States to share with the Secretary-General all information that can help him to fulfill this role.

We strongly support the concept of preventive peacekeeping and urge the Security Council to adopt this option when lives can be saved, confrontation averted or democracy stabilized. In Kosovo, for example, preventive diplomacy by the Security Council and the Secretary-General may well prevent bloodshed and anarchy.

In the area of peacemaking, we agree that the Secretary-General should continue to use mediation and negotiation to facilitate the process of peace, and that the Security Council should avail itself of the provisions of the Charter, which permit it to recommend appropriate measures for dispute settlement. We also agree that there is a broader role for the International Court of Justice and that, pursuant to Article 96 of the Charter, the Secretary-General be authorized to take advantage of the advisory competence of the Court.

Peacekeeping

I have already alluded to the 4,300 Canadian men and women currently committed to UN peacekeeping operations. Canada has for many years maintained a battalion on standby for peacekeeping operations. We also have a long-standing policy whereby other Canadian Forces members can and have been called upon for peacekeeping duties. We are prepared to confirm these arrangements in an exchange of letters with the Secretariat as suggested in the Secretary-General's report. We urge other countries to do the same.

We agree with the need to make available human rights monitors, electoral officials, refugee and humanitarian specialists and police, whatever the situation calls for. We have committed, for example, 45 members of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police to serve with the UN civilian forces in the former Yugoslavia. Let me add that we believe that countries that make available such civilian experts to the UN should have their supplemental costs reimbursed.

Peace Enforcement and Peace-building

Whereas "peacekeeping" has become