

- Canada has vigorously supported UN and regional initiatives to inspire meaningful peace negotiations in Angola, where UNITA refuses to accept the results of democratic elections and has thrown the country back into a devastating civil war.
- In Sudan, the continuing serious human rights violations fully justified the appointment of a Special Rapporteur and we urge the government to give him its full co-operation. We want to express in particular our concern with the lack of cooperation with international humanitarian relief efforts in Sudan, and the dislocations and devastation of whole communities. These actions have been used as instruments of war.
- Regional and UN efforts to resolve conflict and build foundations for human rights show greater progress in other parts of Africa. In Rwanda, the Arusha agreement which ended three years of armed conflict should favour a greater respect for human values; and the presence of a UN force should ensure its application. In Liberia, the Cotonou accord ended a longer and bloodier civil war. The UN is working with West African peace-keepers, but it will be a challenge to hold free elections by March and bring the first major peace-keeping effort of the OAU to a successful conclusion.
- For Canada, the situation in Peru remains of concern and we fully support all efforts, including those of the OAS, to influence developments and eliminate human rights abuses committed both by terrorist organisations and official institutions. The people of Peru voted on October 31 for a new constitution. We hope that this legal framework will encourage Peruvian institutions and people to carry on the efforts made so far to ensure a return to democracy and the elimination of violence and human rights abuses.
- Canada remains concerned by the human rights situation in Guatemala. We urge both the Guatemalan government and the U.R.N.G. to find the political will to resume peace negotiations to end Central America's longest standing armed conflict. Conscious of the enormous challenges facing the administration of President Ramiro de Leon Carpio, we reiterate our own support for the constitutional civilian government's efforts to promote respect for human rights and democratic development.
- The international community should actively encourage a negotiated peace in Sri Lanka and the continuation of the government's reform program. At the same time, serious human rights abuses by certain elements of the security forces and Tamil secessionists continue. We encourage the government to continue steps towards improving the human rights situation, in co-operation with the international community. We call on all parties to respect human rights.
- We continue to be concerned by violence perpetrated in Kashmir. Canada welcomed the peaceful resolution of the occupation and siege of the Hazratbal Muslim shrine, and is encouraged by the announcement of renewed bilateral talks. The Indian government must ensure a full and transparent investigation of the events of October 22. The welcome progress with respect to the establishment of a human rights commission needs to be buttressed with increased access for media, international organisations and other observers to troubled areas.
- Canada remains concerned about Indonesia's approach to human rights, particularly in East Timor. Recent measures taken by Indonesia, including the establishment of a National Commission on Human Rights, have been encouraging. We urge further steps to reassure the international community of the government's commitment to human rights, such as improved access for international NGOs and continued progress in UN-sponsored discussions on East Timor.

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