

Religious Intolerance from that end. In our view, the Saudi Arabian amendment did just that. We opposed it as we opposed the Nigerian and Russian amendment.

We regret that we were unable to support the amendment of Italy. Our regret was based on our appreciation of their reason for introducing it. We know that it was an effort at compromise. We know that it was based on sentiments in which we very thoroughly concur. But we judged that the substance of the amendment introduced into the preamble the same principle which we found objectionable in other amendments. It set out a second purpose or goal to which we had consistently expressed our opposition. We voted against it. We accept the exact wording of Italy's amendment in Article II. But in Article II, the purpose is simply to preclude the use of religious tolerance for other purposes. Included in the preamble we judged it to influence the entire philosophy and basis of the Convention and we could not accept it there.

Canada feels the responsibility to use its vote to produce a Convention that will serve the cause of religious tolerance in the most effective way. We fear, Mr. Chairman, to produce a Convention that could conceivably be used as a weapon against religious freedom.