
Organization (UNESCO), for example, has been a serious offender in recent years. We must step up the momentum to bring UNESCO back into balance.

We must not permit challenges to the universality of membership to undermine the continued visibility of the system. Israel, for example, must retain its right of membership in the UN family of organizations. The Republic of Korea deserves full membership in the UN.

We must not, of course, allow any analysis of the things that have gone wrong to obscure the many things that have gone right within the UN system. We often take for granted the many parts of the systems which are continuing to function well. I shall cite only a few examples.

First, most of the UN Specialized Agencies are continuing to carry out their mandates with distinction and dedication. The International Civil Aviation Organization, as a case in point, was able last spring to approve unanimously an amendment to its constitution making even clearer the existing prohibition against using force against civil aircraft.

Second, in human rights, the distance still to go, and the double standards still at play, cannot obscure the step-by-step progress which has been made. All those who cherish human rights have been heartened by the election of a government of Argentina committed to the restoration of human rights.

Canada hopes that at this session the next important international milestone in human rights will be passed — adoption of a convention against torture and other cruel, inhumane or degrading treatment. We must send a message to the world that torture is unacceptable to civilized nations.

Third, the UN's development activities and humanitarian assistance continue to be irreplaceable. In 1984, the United Nations Development Program will generate about \$1 billion in technical assistance to developing countries using the parts of the UN system as executing agencies. The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) makes a vital contribution to meeting the development and humanitarian needs of mothers and children. The UN High Commissioner for Refugees and UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, co-ordinate essential humanitarian assistance to refugees.

Fourth, the UN system is also helping to focus upon the most persistent social issues facing society. The UN's designation of 1985 as International Youth Year has encouraged many countries such as Canada to develop a comprehensive national program in this field. The second International Conference on Population, held this past summer in Mexico City, has strengthened the momentum generated on population issued over the past decade and identified emerging problems of global concern. The World Conference on Women, to be held in Nairobi next July, will provide an opportunity to develop forward-looking strategies to stimulate positive changes in the lives of women.

Fifth, under the auspices of the UN system, positive and often innovative legal regimes have been established in such critical fields as law of the sea, trade, outer space, civil aviation, telecommunications and the environment. The progressive extension of the rule of law is fundamental to the whole multi-lateral system.
