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CANADA ASSUMES U.N. SECURITY COUNCIL PRESIDENCY DURING OCTOBER

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Right Honourable Joe Clark, today welcomed Canada's assumption of the Presidency of the United Nations Security Council for the month of October.

"The Security Council is the central United Nations body charged with maintaining international peace and security," Mr. Clark said. "It has the potential to resolve many of the regional conflicts that bring despair to so many around the world. As a strong supporter of the UN, Canada welcomes the important responsibility of presiding over the Security Council."

The Minister noted that the Security Council is showing a renewed determination to grapple with complex issues. "Canada has served as a non-permanent Member of the Security Council since last January. In that time, we have worked to foster what many see as an historic level of co-operation among Council members."

"Canada assumes the Security Council Presidency resolved to use its reputation for fairness and integrity to build on this positive climate. While there are regrettably no quick fixes in multilateral diplomacy, we hope to see further progress in dealing with regional and global threats to peace and security."

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Secretary of State
for
External Affairs

Secrétaire d'État
aux
Affaires extérieures

Canada

The Security Council rotates the Presidency monthly among its 15 members. Last January 1, Canada began a two-year term as an elected, non-permanent Council Member. As President, Canada's Permanent Representative to the United Nations, Ambassador Yves Fortier, becomes the 'voice' of the Security Council throughout October.

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