

STATEMENT DISCOURS

SECRETARY
OF STATE
FOR EXTERNAL
AFFAIRS.

SECRÉTAIRE
D'ÉTAT AUX
AFFAIRES
EXTÉRIEURES.



SUBMISSION OF CANADA IN ACCORDANCE WITH
CHAPTER I PARAGRAPH 6 (B) OF THE FINAL
RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE HELSINKI
CONSULTATIONS MADE BY THE SECRETARY OF
STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, THE
HONOURABLE MITCHELL SHARP, IN HELSINKI,
JULY 5, 1973.

In accordance with Chapter 1 paragraph 6 (B) of the final recommendations of the Helsinki consultations, the Secretary of State for External Affairs of Canada would like to make the following submission for consideration by the committee to be set up by the conference at the second stage to prepare proposals to facilitate freer movement and contacts under item III of the agenda.

It is the Canadian view that the committee/subcommittee, in accordance with its terms of reference, should examine the practical possibilities of progressively reducing and eventually eliminating man-made obstacles of an arbitrary nature to contacts between people and to the solution of humanitarian problems, and should work out ways and means appropriate to these aims. In so doing, it should seek to achieve the following improvements in particular:

- (1) Liberalization of procedures applying to the exit of individuals and their families from participating states and of procedures for issuing passports for their travel abroad;
- (2) Prompt granting of permission for families to reunite across national boundaries, for members of families to contact and meet each other regularly, and for nationals of different states to marry;
- (3) Liberalization of restrictions on the validity of passports, on foreign exchange allowances and on the disposal of property of those leaving participating states;
- (4) Elimination of zones closed to travel by foreign nationals within the territories of participating states, with the exception of areas restricted for reasons of military security;
- (5) Assurance of access to diplomatic, consular or other officially sponsored foreign establishments in participating states by visitors to those states and to citizens of those states seeking information.