

News Release

Communiqué

Department of
External
Affairs



Ministère des
Affaires
extérieures

No. 230

October 26, 1988.

CANADA BECOMES MEMBER OF UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Right Honourable Joe Clark, made the following statement today in Edmonton:

"I am pleased that Canada has been elected to the United Nations Security Council for a two year period beginning in January 1989. Canadians are honoured by this expression of confidence in Canada's role in world affairs and the government's constructive internationalism. We appreciate the support we received from so many governments.

Canada's election to the Security Council comes at a time when the United Nations' role in international affairs is being revitalized. Only last month U.N. forces were awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for their long and distinguished record in international peacekeeping. The U.N.'s role in the past year in Afghanistan and bringing an end to the Iran-Iraq war together with its active involvement in promoting the independence of Namibia, provide further evidence of the U.N.'s new vigour. As the Prime Minister stated in his address before the United Nations last month, Canada is proud of its contribution to these efforts and today's election serves to underline our ongoing role in and commitment to the U.N.

We welcome the opportunity to play a special role on the Security Council in the pursuit of peace and security. Canadians are skilled at working with people of divergent views to solve difficult issues. I am confident that this skill, together with our long experience in all the activities of the United Nations, will enable us to play an important and effective role on the Council.

.../2

Secretary of State
for
External Affairs

Secrétaire d'État
aux
Affaires extérieures

Canada

I congratulate all the newly elected members of the Council and look forward to working with them. My only regret is that there were only two seats to be filled by three western group countries. I want to express my respect and admiration for the other candidates. Although they were not elected we value their advice and insight and will consult them closely."