



# communiqué

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## CANADIAN CONTRIBUTION TO THE OBJECTIVES OF THE WORLD DISARMAMENT CAMPAIGN

The Honourable Allan J. MacEachen, Deputy Prime Minister and Secretary of State for External Affairs, announced today a Canadian contribution to the objectives of the World Disarmament Campaign. Two financial contributions totalling \$100,000 will directly promote research and public information activities being undertaken within the United Nations system. The objective of the Campaign is a more informed public throughout the world.

Canada will contribute \$70,000 to the United Nations to make possible wider circulation of the UN Disarmament Yearbook. One of the more ambitious projects undertaken by the UN Secretariat in recent years, the Yearbook is an indispensable reference for those wishing to be informed about arms control and disarmament issues of multilateral forums. In addition to providing a factual account of deliberations in the UN General Assembly and the UN Disarmament Commission, it also covers the work of the Committee on Disarmament, the multilateral negotiating body in Geneva.

To date the Yearbook has received limited distribution in the various UN languages. One important reason has been its high price. Canada's contribution will help to reduce its price thereby widening its circulation and enhancing the work of the UN Department for Disarmament Affairs which has primary responsibility for the World Disarmament Campaign.

Canada will also contribute \$30,000 to the UN Institute for Disarmament Research to facilitate its work in areas of special Canadian interest such as verification problems in current arms control and disarmament negotiations. Based in Geneva, the Institute began to

function on a temporary basis after the first UN Special Session on Disarmament (UNSSOD I) in 1978. The UN General Assembly last autumn passed a resolution, cosponsored by Canada, which provided for an autonomous institution, working closely with the UN Department for Disarmament Affairs, to undertake independent research on disarmament and related security issues. Its activities are to be funded by voluntary contributions from states as well as private organizations.

Guidelines for the World Disarmament Campaign were agreed last year at the second UN Special Session on Disarmament (UNSSOD II). Canada played a leading role in the search for consensus on the guidelines which also provide for an annual review of its activities. Canada will continue to follow closely developments related to the Campaign with a view to determining the most effective ways of further contributing to its objectives.

The Canadian statement on the World Disarmament Campaign at UNSSOD II highlighted the increased attention Canada has been devoting to research and public information activities in Canada in light of the recommendations in the Final Document of UNSSOD I. Canada attaches the greatest importance to activities under the World Disarmament Campaign being carried out in all regions of the world in a balanced, factual and objective manner.