The Permanent Representative of Canada to the United Nations has the honour to refer to the International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development.

The Permanent Representative of Canada requests that the attached statement delivered by the Canadian Ambassador for Disarmament at the International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development on 11 September 1987 be circulated as an official document of the Conference.
Though I gladly thank all those who have made this historic Conference a success, I have not taken the floor merely to express self-congratulation. Rather, I want to emphasize that this Conference has been a landmark in the long journey to build an enduring peace for all peoples. For we have put a global spotlight on the costs of a continuing arms race and compared it to the potential benefits for development that might be derived from a degree of disarmament. I believe we have raised the level of world consciousness that true security in the modern, interdependent world demands both disarmament and development.

This global recognition, by consensus, that disarmament and development are the two pillars on which the security of the world must stand is a profound achievement. We are still in the early stages of implementing the kind of disarmament and development foreseen by the Final Document. The important thing is that the international community has moved forward together in a new, enlarged understanding of how to achieve security. This Document can and must be built on in the years to come. It now goes to Governments and peoples throughout the world to be implemented. It was not written to go on the library shelf; it was written to animate leaders, politicians, officials and the publics of the world.

It is not a perfect document; it does not possess all the answers; it does not meet every need. But it does respond to the skeptics who may still doubt that disarmament and development are interrelated through security. And it does avoid the pretensions of a "quick-fix" in the disarmament-development relationship. Moreover, it was achieved by the give-and-take of negotiations that produced a consensus by which we proved that we could speak and act together. Therein lies the strength of this Document.

The principle is fully established that viable ways must be found to allocate a portion of the global resources released through disarmament for social and economic development. All peoples in all States, North and South, East and West, large and small, nuclear and non-nuclear, will benefit from this process.

The Conference is ending, but the work of the international community in implementing the disarmament-development relationship is beginning.