

**STATEMENT MADE BY H.E. PAUL HEINBECKER, PERMANENT
REPRESENTATIVE OF CANADA UPON ADOPTION OF REFORM RESOLUTION-
ITEM 52, DECEMBER 20, 2002**

Mr President:

I would like to take a moment to thank you for the leadership you have given in steering this process.

I would also like to thank the facilitators for their contributions, which has been key to such progress as we have achieved.

- Commend Deputy Secretary General for her hard work.

- Salute also the effectiveness of Ambassador Hussein of Ethiopia in reaching agreement. I would also like to thank the facilitators for their contributions, which has been key to such progress as we have achieved.

Facilitation is a method of work we could use more often, as it is more suited for the advancement of some common goals, such as this reform, than the usual negotiations organized along group lines, which too often lead to lowest-common-denominator results.

The Secretary General put forward an “Agenda for Change”, not a detailed blueprint.

The resolution we have just adopted embraces the course that the Secretary General has charted and encourages him to implement actions within his managerial purview, and commissions processes and reports across a broad agenda to develop the details on implementing the desired improvements can be implemented.

I will not hide that we believe more could have and should have been accomplished ... and that we believe the text is more defensive than is warranted, particularly with respect to the authority of the Secretary General ...

Together, we have nevertheless managed to impart further momentum the effort to further strengthen the Organization.

There is much work to do.

The preparation of the next budget is a critical next step.

The Secretary General has challenged us to anticipate a more strategic budget, one that aligns resources with priorities, and one that undertakes the painful but essential task of identifying outdated activities for discontinuation.

In this resolution we have clearly welcomed this challenge and urged the Secretary General to do just that.

We have no doubt that the Secretary General and his senior managers will pursue energetically the agenda for management reform and efficiency measures that they themselves have set out.

Improving conference services, restructuring DPI, strengthening the effectiveness of the field presence, and an array of people management improvements are among the many issues that the Secretariat can proceed to implement within its managerial prerogative.

We look forward to the next stages of the process.

Many of the most complex issues identified by the Secretary General remain to be resolved in detail, such as how best to improve the planning and budgeting system.

Member States will thus have much to address next year.

Canada looks forward to supporting the Secretary General's efforts to improve and strengthen the Organization and to joining all those Members who are likewise committed to this goal in giving the further support and direction required.

Thank you.