

13 December, 2007

Canada

**Intervention on the Renewal of the Special Procedures Mandate on
Human Rights and Counter-Terrorism**

Mr. President,

Canada thanks Mr. Scheinin for his valuable work in the fulfillment of this mandate.

Fighting international terrorism is a long-term global challenge. Canada unequivocally condemns terrorism and is committed to international efforts aimed at its eradication. Democracy and political stability cannot thrive in a climate of terror, nor can development flourish where anarchy reigns.

Combating terrorism demands a consistent, comprehensive and co-ordinated international response. It must be pursued in full compliance with established international norms and values. Respect for human rights and the rule of law must be at the core of all countries' counter-terrorism efforts, both domestic and international. Canada has been instrumental in ensuring that regional and international counter-terrorism instruments also promote and protect human rights.

Canada considers the continuation of this mandate instrumental to strengthening our common strategic approach to combating terrorism. The Council is an essential venue for work to promote respect for human rights in combating terrorism. The Special Rapporteur has a central role to play in supporting States' efforts to pursue complementary and mutually reinforcing approaches to counter-terrorism and human rights protection by undertaking country visits, liaising with the United Nations and regional organizations, and by reporting and making recommendations on these issues.

For these reasons, Canada is pleased to be a co-sponsor of the resolution which renews this mandate.

Thank you, Mr. President.