

September 22, 2024

## **Introduction / Scene Setting**

Mr. President. Fellow delegates. Friends.

As we meet here in New York at the UN General Assembly for this Summit of the Future, we’re at a global inflection point.

Faced with escalating instability undermining the very foundations of the international order –

Beset by the increasingly dire costs of climate change –

Contending with rising inequality that is leaving the most vulnerable behind –

Plagued by the erosion of women’s rights, LGBTQ+ rights, and Indigenous rights –

And grappling with dire humanitarian crises perpetuating record levels of displacement –

We have a choice.

On the one hand, we can bury our heads in the sand –  
eschewing multilateralism in favour of short-sighted self-  
interest.

Or we can recognize that, collectively, we have a  
responsibility to set our differences aside –

To confront these serious global challenges –

And to deliver on a Pact for the Future that builds a more  
peaceful world, but also one where everyone – every  
generation – gets a real and fair shot.

[Pause]

## **Canada's Priorities**

In Canada, that is what we are squarely focused on.

As I travel across my country –

Canadians of all walks of life, but particularly young  
Canadians, tell me they're worried.

They're worried about the state of the world and the future.

But most importantly, they're worried that the very promise  
of Canada –

The promise that if you work hard, you can do better than  
the generation that preceded you –

Is slipping out of reach.

As a government, we're stepping up.

[CLIP]

The solution to anxiety and angst is not to deceive and deflect, but to take action.

We know that confident, successful countries invest in their citizens, in their workers, in their middle class.

In national \$10-a-day childcare that saves families money while ensuring women can choose the best path for themselves –

In nutritious school meals so our kids can focus on learning and growing –

In an ambitious housing plan that will deliver good, abundant, and affordable homes –

In a national dental care program that in its first months has already delivered quality care to three quarters of a million Canadians –

In a growth and industrial strategy that creates good-paying, community-building, middle class jobs – all while fighting climate change.

These are choices that deliver on the promise of Canada – for every generation.

[CLIP]

These choices reflect a commitment to investing in our people and in our future.

But also a commitment to tackle global problems we all share.

[Pause]

## **The need for collective action**

*Les changements climatiques et l'inflation ne s'arrêtent pas aux frontières.*

*L'inégalité est un problème pour le monde entier, pour des personnes de tous horizons.*

*Si on veut bien servir ses propres citoyens, on doit s'attaquer ensemble les grands défis mondiaux.*

*Il faut travailler au sein des institutions comme les Nations Unies et renouveler notre engagement à l'égard du Programme de développement durable à l'horizon 2030.*

*Il faut protéger et soutenir la règle de droit et les valeurs démocratiques.*

*Il faut déployer des efforts de premier plan pour réformer les institutions financières internationales.*

*Il faut mettre les droits des femmes et des filles au cœur même de nos efforts, comme nous l'avons fait avec notre Politique d'aide internationale féministe.*

*Il faut reconnaître que les pays riches comme le Canada ont le devoir de lutter contre les changements climatiques –*

*Ce que nous faisons par notre engagement de 5 milliards de dollars aux efforts mondiaux de financement climatique –*

*Et en étant le premier grand pays producteur de pétrole et gaz à mettre en place un plafond aux émissions dans ce secteur.*

*[Pause]*

## **Conclusion**

My fellow delegates: nearly 80 years ago, in the aftermath of the most destructive war in our collective history, we formed the United Nations –

And we did so with the aspiration to build something better – for today's generations yes, but also for many generations to come.

All of us gathered here have an opportunity to hold true to that mission –

To fulfill the promise of our Pact for the Future –

To deliver fairness for every generation.

Thank you.