

STATEMENT BY CANADA ON THE INVASION OF UKRAINE

Canada is pleased to be a part of the 23rd Special Meeting of ICCAT in Vale do Lobo, Portugal.

However, Canada must also take this opportunity to stand with the international community to condemn Russia's unjustifiable and unprovoked invasion of Ukraine. The international community must remain seized with this issue. This is not just an attack on Ukraine: this is an attack on international law, including the United Nations Charter, as well as on democracy, freedom, and human rights. In launching this war, Russia is seeking to destroy the freedom of a people and to overthrow the democratically elected government of a sovereign nation.

We must continue to act with one global voice to condemn President Putin's aggressive actions. What Russia has done cannot be normalized. We must hold Russian leadership to account, call on it to abandon this path of war, and return to good-faith diplomacy. The world must reject President Putin's behaviour.

Canada stands with the government of Ukraine and with its brave and resilient people.