

nitrous oxide emissions from industrial sources, power plants and motor vehicles; in the U.N. Environmental Programme, negotiations are under way on an international protocol on the protection of the earth's ozone layer. The World Commission on Environment and Development will visit Canada May 22-31 to examine environmental problems and better ways and means of resolving them. Groups and private citizens will have an opportunity to present views to the Commission.

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It is highly appropriate that the International Year of Peace will provide the backdrop for a U.N.-sponsored international conference this summer on one of the most important issues of our time -- the Relationship Between Disarmament and Development.

There are few issues that cut so broad a swath across the concerns of both developed and developing countries than the disarmament/development linkage. In concluding its 1981 "Study on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development," the U.N. Experts Group stated:

"... the world can either continue to pursue the arms race with characteristic vigour or move consciously and with deliberate speed toward a more stable and balanced social and economic development within a more sustainable international economic and political order. It cannot do both. It must be acknowledged that the arms race and development are in a competitive relationship, particularly in terms of resources but also in the vital dimension of attitudes and perceptions ..."

One of the most important contributions of the Experts Group study was to broaden the scope of the disarmament/development relationship to place it in the context of a triangular interaction between disarmament, development and security.

The Experts Study noted that the range of contemporary challenges to the security of nations is far broader than the military power of potential adversaries. In outlining some of the non-military challenges to security, the report pointed to:

- the scarcity of vital raw materials and commodities;
- the long-term effects of environmental degradation;
- the present inequality in the distribution of the world's wealth and opportunities.