

consolidate peace and advance a sense of confidence and well-being among people."¹ The measures arise from an understanding that peace does not emerge automatically when war is not present, that it must be built, and that, in the largest sense, a security regime must "address the deepest causes of conflict: economic despair, social injustice and political oppression."²

Specific measures to address the role of weapons proliferation in these conflicts have also been proposed, by the UN Secretary-General and others. In his 1995 supplement to *An Agenda for Peace*, Boutros Boutros-Ghali drew attention to "micro-disarmament," which he defined as:

"practical disarmament in the context of the conflicts the United Nations is actually dealing with and of the weapons, most of them light weapons, that are actually killing people in the hundreds of thousands."³

Micro-disarmament, he argues, must respond to the enormous proliferation of light weapons noted in the introduction. Two categories of light weapons, small arms and anti-personnel landmines, have also merited special attention by the international community, but micro-disarmament in general can be seen as part of peace-keeping operations, peace settlements, and post-conflict peace-building. Specific measures that Canada might pursue will be detailed in chapters seven and eight.

The Canadian government has identified the United Nations as central to efforts to build security in the post-Cold War environment. Under "Instruments for Building Security" in *Canada in the World*, it stated:

The UN continues to be the key vehicle for pursuing Canada's global security objectives. Canada can best move forward in its global security priorities by working with other member states. The success of the UN is fundamental, therefore, to Canada's future security.⁴

In addition to calling for UN reforms, including a review of UN economic and social activities to reflect a broader definition of global security, the foreign policy statement committed the Canadian government to efforts to improve UN conventional non-proliferation measures, notably the UN convention related to landmines and the UN Register of Conventional Arms.

The uncertainties of the post-Cold War period pose many new or altered security challenges to the international community. They also present new opportunities for response, especially through reformed and revitalized multilateral institutions. However, these opportunities may be lost if they are not framed by an expanded definition of security that will define non-proliferation measures within a larger context. As the Secretary-General put it in another recent report on *New Dimensions of Arms Regulation and Disarmament in the Post-Cold War World*, "the time has come for the practical integration of disarmament and arms regulation issues into the broader structure of the international peace and security agenda."⁵

¹ *Ibid.*, 32.

² *Ibid.*, 8.

³ Boutros Boutros-Ghali, *Supplement to An Agenda for Peace: Position Paper of the Secretary-General on the Occasion of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the United Nations*, S/1995/1 (3 January 1995), 14.

⁴ *Canada in the World*, 27.

⁵ Boutros Boutros-Ghali, *New Dimensions of Arms Regulation and Disarmament in the Post-Cold War Era*, report of the Secretary-General (New York: United Nations, 1994), 4.