

What all this means is that the need for Western collective security will last far into the future. NATO will continue to be the best instrument for preserving the peace, and Canada's place will continue to be in NATO. Our alliance is committed to pursuing greater stability at lower levels of armaments.

Canadians have every reason to be pleased with the results of the NATO Summit, three weeks ago. It achieved a remarkable degree of consensus around a sensible and open-minded approach to future relations with the Soviet Bloc.

The government has in the Defence White Paper charted a course that will enable Canada to meet all its commitments - to collective security, to peacekeeping and to sovereignty protection - into the 1990s and beyond. There are some Canadians who wish to abandon one or another of those goals but we remain committed to all of them.

We are closing the commitment/credibility gap. We have reinforced our contingent in Europe. We have taken on peacekeeping responsibilities in the Sinai. We are solving the problems of obsolescent and inadequate equipment.

That includes submarines. This government believes that Canada should have a three-ocean navy capable of operating in the Atlantic, Pacific and Arctic Oceans. Only nuclear-powered submarines can operate in the Arctic Ocean. But most important, nuclear-powered submarines are more cost-effective and operationally effective than conventional submarines for fulfilling the navy's primary role - the protection of the Atlantic sea lanes.

The government has been no less active in charting Canada's future aid and development policy. Earlier this month my colleague Monique Landry tabled in the House of Commons a strategy entitled "Sharing Our Future", which draws on the advice of three parliamentary committees. It is the first major government statement on international development in 13 years. It includes the first-ever ODA Charter (Official Development Assistance) setting out Canada's principles and priorities in the area of development.

The strategy will direct our assistance to the poorest countries and peoples of the world. Our bilateral aid will be focussed on 30 countries or regional groupings, with 65% of the total going to our Commonwealth and Francophone partners. Africa will receive 45% over the next five years. A substantial part of CIDA's operations will be decentralized to the field. The total effect of the strategy will be to ensure that Canada has one of the most progressive and effective aid and development programs in the world.