- Participants enthusiastically supported the idea of a 'sanctions forum': a group of concerned states and non-state actors which would explore options for sanctions reform and work to build support for these reforms. Such an initiative, it was held, meshes well with Canada's stated intent to build a Council that is more accountable and sensitive to the views of non-permanent members.
- It was also agreed that Canada should determine how other non-permanent members of the Council view various proposals for sanctions reform.
- Participants expressed the view that there would be little room for substantive progress on some of the more institutional aspects of sanctions reform while the sanctions against Iraq are still in place. Nonetheless, they agreed that it would be fruitful to undertake discussions of reform while this controversial issue still occupies the global agenda. Furthermore, many of the initiatives presented above may be carried out by Canada on a case-by-case basis. It was agreed that Canada should lead by example, and by demonstrating consistency in its approach to sanctions across cases.
- d) Approaches to reform: engaging civil society
- Bearing in mind the key role of public opinion in determining the sanctions policies of states, participants argued that sanctions reform will likely prove ineffective unless it seeks to reconstruct the manner in which domestic audiences view sanctions. Simply put, as long as the electorate views draconian economic sanctions as the only "real" means of exerting influence