

American security. The overall threat to the North American continent from the air, land, and sea has greatly increased, including the potential for the use of weapons of mass destruction delivered by unconventional means, by terrorists or others.

Our two Governments have taken steps on a national basis to reassess and improve preparedness for the air, land, and maritime defence of each country. Moreover, our Governments have identified additional ways we could work together to protect our citizens and to strengthen North American security as a whole, while respecting the national interests and sovereignty of each other.

In view of these developments, I have the honor to propose the following: Our two Governments reaffirm the value of continued cooperation between Canada and the United States in the aerospace defence of North America through participation in the North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD).

Both Governments affirm the merits of broadening bi-national defence arrangements in order to:

- (1) prevent or mitigate threats or attacks by terrorists or others on Canada or the United States; and
- (2) ensure a cooperative and well-coordinated response to national requests for military assistance in