

The study recommends practical changes over the short to medium term and addresses some of the more visionary, longer-term issues that the international community must confront if the UN is to remain capable of playing a central role in international peace and security. Although fundamental reform is not easy, especially in the midst of financial crisis, the report's recommendations represent a range of measures to help the cause of global peace.

The report contains 26 recommendations, 21 of them for the short to medium term. None involve changes to the UN Charter. The recommendations include:

- improving the quality of military advice in the UN, leading to better and faster decision making by the Security Council;
- changing the UN's financial procedures so that officials in charge of rapid-reaction machinery can plan and initiate their operations more quickly;
- creating a UN operational-level headquarters for a rapid-reaction group;
- strengthening the UN's standby arrangements system so it can react rapidly;
- improving other aspects of the UN's approaches to peace operations, including logistics, training and equipment; and
- continuing to study the possibility of a permanent, standing UN emergency group.

The Canadian study is only one element in a broader effort to renew international institutions in light of past experience and the challenges of the 21st century.