

Specifically, Canada contributed throughout the year to substantive negotiations on a Chemical Weapons Convention and on strengthening the Biological and Toxic Weapons Convention. In addition, Canada continued to support efforts to strengthen controls on transfers of missile technology. At their meeting in Tokyo, March 18-20, 1991, Canada and the 15 other partners in the Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR) agreed to pursue a strengthening of the program by broadening its scope and by encouraging more countries to adhere to its provisions. The MTCR establishes guidelines for controlling exports of missile equipment and technology.

Canada believes that the establishment of an Open Skies regime, allowing unarmed observer flights over countries on a reciprocal basis, would also be a significant confidence-building achievement. The Open Skies negotiations launched in Ottawa in February continued. Canada participated in a second round of talks held in Budapest, Hungary, between April and May 1990. Though an agreement has not yet been reached, the parties have discussed all issues thoroughly and reached several important compromises. NATO nations have made proposals to overcome the remaining differences, with Canada playing a leading role in formulating the proposals and being a strong advocate of continued negotiation.

Canadian security is enhanced by reducing military tension and increasing military openness between East and West. Canada contributed to these goals by participating in two negotiations in Vienna: the Negotiations on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe (CFE) and the Negotiations on Confidence- and Security-Building Measures (CSBM). These negotiations produced the CFE Treaty and the Vienna Document for acceptance by participants at the Paris Summit of November 1990. Under the provisions of the Vienna Document 1990, and its predecessor, the 1986 Stockholm Agreement, Canada continued to send invited observers to monitor military activities in states represented in the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE).

The process of determining that countries are complying with arms control agreements is referred to as "verification." Canada continued to play a leading role in this field primarily through the Verification Research Program and the Verification Research Unit of the Department. Expert support was provided to:

- a verification working group in the CFE negotiations, chaired by Canada;

- the Global Coordinator of the Group of Scientific Experts' second technical test of a seismic data exchange;
- the UN Conference on Disarmament's Ad Hoc Committee on Outer Space, also chaired by Canada;
- the Canadian delegation to the negotiations on chemical weapons; and
- the UN Group of Experts Study.

In May 1990, Canada also submitted a report to the UN Secretary-General concerning research into the utility of overhead remote-sensing technology in enhancing the effectiveness of UN peacekeeping. The report had been promised by the Secretary of State for External Affairs in his address to the 45th UN General Assembly.

In cooperation with the Netherlands, Canada undertook two important trial inspections related to arms control. The first, conducted in November 1990 and nicknamed "Operation Acid Brew," was aimed at investigating inspection methods for a global agreement to ban chemical weapons. The second trial inspection, in January and February 1991, focused on testing the inspection procedures provided in the CFE Treaty. These trial inspections represent one aspect of Canada's ongoing cooperation with a number of countries on ways to provide verification procedures.

Canada has also hosted various international experts' meetings on verification. The Seventh Annual Ottawa Verification Symposium, in October 1990, was one of the first meetings to focus on the practical problems of implementing the verification procedures incorporated in the CFE Treaty. The Eighth Annual Symposium, in March 1991, entitled "Towards Helsinki 1991: Arms Control in Europe and the Verification Process," took a long-term perspective dealing with issues relating to the follow-up on arms control negotiations in Europe. In September 1990, Canada hosted a meeting of a NATO Industrial Advisory Group study team composed of some 60 industrial representatives from 10 nations. This Group's study will be one of the most detailed and comprehensive on the verification of arms control agreements relating to conventional sources.

Canada continued to play an active role at the UN in the consideration of disarmament issues. A Canadian diplomat chaired the Group of Experts that conducted a study on the role of the UN in the field of verification. The Group's report was tabled at the 45th annual session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA). The Canadian delegation to