

between President Ronald Reagan and General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev, the first such meeting in six years. The joint statement issued after that encounter dealt largely with arms control issues. The United States consulted closely with Canada and its other allies both before and after that meeting and throughout the subsequent negotiating process at Geneva. Prime Minister Mulroney also corresponded several times with General Secretary Gorbachev on East-West and arms control matters. From the time the negotiations began in March 1985 it was apparent that they were but the beginning of a long and arduous process. Given the complexity of the issues, the Canadian government is pleased that serious and detailed proposals have been tabled and that significant, if modest, progress in expanding common ground was registered.

In its efforts to promote and gain greater international acceptance of the indispensability of adequate verification procedures, Canada achieved a major success at UNGA 40 by initiating a verification resolution which was adopted by consensus. The resolution, entitled "Verification in All its Aspects," represented a formal recognition by the world community of the legitimacy and importance of verification in facilitating the negotiation and implementation of arms control and disarmament agreements.

In presenting the resolution, the Ambassador for Disarmament, Mr. Douglas Roche, gave examples of the type of verification research work Canada has already carried out. They include:

- a manual of procedures for investigating allegations of chemical or biological weapon use (presented to the UN Secretary General in December 1985);
- a study of the feasibility of satellite-based systems for monitoring potential arms control agreements concerning outer space or conventional forces in Europe;
- research into seismic technology for detecting low-yield nuclear tests (the government allocated \$3.2 million to the upgrading of a seismic facility in Canada's North); and

- working papers examining the nature of the legal regime relevant to arms control and outer space.

On the diplomatic front, Canadian delegations remained active participants in the principal multilateral arms control negotiating forums: the Conference on Disarmament in Geneva, the Stockholm Conference on Confidence and Security Building Measures (CSBM) and the Mutual and Balanced Force Reductions Talks (MBFRT) in Vienna. In addition, the government's arms control objectives were effectively advanced through active participation in the May 1985 meeting of the United Nations Disarmament Commission in New York and the successful Third Non-Proliferation Treaty Review Conference in September of that year. The practice of conducting bilateral arms control and disarmament consultations with countries active in global arms control and disarmament affairs was continued through talks held with the United States, the Soviet Union, the United Kingdom, and France during the period under review.

A lively public dialogue on the substance of Canada's arms control and disarmament policy was conducted by means of the non-governmental Consultative Group on Disarmament and Arms Control Affairs, which met twice with departmental officials to discuss Canadian preparations for the third Non-Proliferation Treaty Review Conference and Canadian activities in the multilateral arms control and disarmament forums. This dialogue was also pursued through speaking engagements in every province by Mr. Douglas Roche, through wide dissemination of an expanded *Disarmament Bulletin*, and through continued support to NGO research and public information activities through the Disarmament Fund. Canada also co-sponsored a United Nations General Assembly resolution proclaiming 1986 as the International Year of Peace (IYP). In March 1986 the Secretary of State for External Affairs announced an IYP program that included a number of activities designed to promote the aims of the IYP in Canada.