

CANADEM

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Organization's mandate/goals:

CANADEM is a non-profit NGO mandated and funded by Canada's Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade to register and assist in the placement of Canadians with skills in human rights, peacebuilding, democratization, admin-logistics, security, reconstruction, and other fields of expertise. It is a national level roster of civilians with a broad range of skills. CANADEM serves primarily as a rapid reaction source of skilled Canadians for the UN, OSCE, other international organizations, NGOs and the Canadian government.

Initiated in 1997, operational in 1998, and now with over 2,500 registrants, the 'CANADEM' option is working well for Canada. CANADEM is an independent freestanding organization with its own board, yet its set up costs and most of its ongoing funding is provided by the Canadian foreign ministry (DFAIT). Strengthening multilateral organizations is a primary Canadian foreign policy objective, and CANADEM is seen as a valuable Canadian support mechanism for staffing multilateral organizations such as the UN and the OSCE.

Areas of expertise relevant to 2001 UN Conference on Small Arms:

Human and Social Development -- *Building good governance and transparency*

CANADEM was established to improve procedures to staff human rights field operations. Working with various parts of the UN, OSCE, etc., the organization has been matching requests with appropriate registrants. Since 1998, it has put forward candidates to over 90 separate agencies, ministries, departments, or organizations, and to over 50 field missions.

Consultation, Co-operation and Information Exchange -- *Coalition building*

Created as a tool of Canadian foreign policy for UN mission reform, CANADEM is a unilateral Canadian initiative to help the UN rapidly find skilled Canadians. It remains totally funded by the Canadian government. CANADEM's broad spectrum of registered individuals ranges from those who are just entering the international field to others with extensive expertise. These experts are drawn from NGOs, professional organizations, business, police, military, etc. CANADEM only provides short-lists of screened candidates, it does not deploy individuals. It is up to end-users such as the UN or the Canadian government to actually select, hire, and deploy individuals.