

LOOKING AHEAD: CANADA'S PRIORITIES FOR 2007-2008

Chemical Weapons

At the 2006 St. Petersburg G8 Summit, the Prime Minister of Canada, Stephen Harper, announced funding for new projects. These include a planned contribution of \$100 million toward the construction of a chemical weapons destruction facility (CWDF) in Russia. While completing work at Shchuch'ye, Canada has begun preparatory work to provide assistance at the Kizner CWDF, as the two million munitions at Kizner are similar to those stored at Shchuch'ye. Canada will provide similar destruction equipment for the two main destruction buildings. Canada will implement the projects through its bilateral agreement with Russia.

Nuclear-powered Submarines

Submarine dismantlement activities will continue, under a fifth implementing arrangement, in northwestern Russia as Canada turns its attention to the nuclear submarines in the Russian far east. The first implementing arrangement in the Russian far east is expected to be initiated in 2008.

Nuclear Security

Due to the pressing threat posed by the possibility of terrorist acquisition of weapons-usable nuclear material, Canada's bilateral nuclear security efforts will increasingly focus on projects to upgrade the physical security of Russian nuclear facilities. In 2007, Canada will have completed projects to bring two Russian nuclear facilities up to international standards for the protection of nuclear materials. Canada will also begin new work at several Russian nuclear facilities.

Canada will maintain a strong commitment to implementing radiological and border security projects. These projects will be implemented through third parties, such as the IAEA and the U.S., thereby leveraging existing project management expertise and experience. Canada will continue to closely monitor and support the program to dispose of 34 tonnes of Russian plutonium.

Redirection of Former Weapons Scientists

Canada will continue to work on the human dimension of non-proliferation by supporting the ISTC and STCU, which both provide employment to former weapons scientists, as well as training and commercialization.



Canadian monitoring visits