

Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and International Trade resulted in a contribution to the Dialogue as well as *Partners in North America*, a major report on Canada's relations with the United States and Mexico; a report on Canada's relations with the Muslim world is forthcoming.

- Written submissions were received from a wide variety of interested individuals, civil-society organizations and business organizations. Those submitted in electronic form are accessible from the Dialogue Web site.
- Reports were submitted from community discussions on foreign policy held in some cities.
- In addition to Minister Graham, Ministers Pettigrew, Whelan, McCallum, Anderson and Augustine participated in meetings on issues related to trade, international assistance, environment, defence, and interfaith relations. Ministers Whelan and Anderson also participated in town halls.
- A National Forum for Youth was held in March on the theme *The Next Canada: The World We Want*.

Several aspects of the Dialogue, notably the Minister's town halls and the Dialogue Web site, were innovations new to Canadian foreign policy consultations. The scope of the Dialogue was criticized by some contributors who called for broader and deeper reviews over an extended time frame; other respondents called for combined foreign, defence and security policy reviews, more focus on different regions of the world, or more sensitivity to regional concerns within Canada. However, most contributors did recognize and welcome the unprecedented opportunities the Dialogue offered for direct citizen involvement in foreign policy development. In order to reflect these contributions, excerpts are presented in italicized quotations throughout this report.

Directions for the Future

Questions the Dialogue Paper asked:

- Which values and interests bear most fundamentally on Canada's foreign policy? How can Canada's foreign policy better reflect the concerns and priorities of Canadians?
- Amid recent global changes, should Canada continue to endorse a "three pillars" approach to its foreign policy objectives, or should the current balance be adjusted?
- Canada is a member of many international organizations, including the G8, NATO, the Commonwealth, La Francophonie, the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum (APEC), the Organization of American States (OAS) and the Arctic Council. Should our participation in any of these be strengthened, or adjusted?

Dialogue participants framed much of their advice against the background of international circumstances now facing Canada as it sets its foreign policy priorities for the coming years. Some of these circumstances reflect recent or emerging trends; others represent persistent or cumulative challenges that call for attention just as much as headline events. Many millions of people around the globe live in extreme poverty or violent insecurity, and Canadians recognize that behind sudden international crises—September 11, 2001 being the most dramatic example in this new century—are long-standing and complex underlying conditions. Hence, a sound foreign policy approach must be one which, by making far-sighted investments in global security and prosperity, contributes to the security and prosperity of Canadians at home.

Another much-discussed theme among Dialogue respondents is the phenomenon of globalization, which many associate with issues of distributional equity, democratic governance and ecological sustainability. Others note that expanding markets, advances in communications, and more open