

organizations respond in timely and effective ways. We recognize that some decisions will be difficult and that risks to the safety of soldiers and civilians will be high. The financial burden will also be higher than in the past. Canada may not be in a position to participate in every mission as it has in the past.

How we contribute to a mission in the future may also vary. But we have to encourage changes in the international management of peacekeeping, and we must be flexible in our own support of peacekeeping operations.

Canada has a long and distinguished position of leadership in peacekeeping, and we intend to retain that position in the UN, in NATO and in the CSCE. But we must also continue our efforts in the newer area of peace-building, the negotiated settlement of potential conflicts before they erupt into violence. We look to the CSCE Summit in Helsinki this July to consolidate progress in peace-building for Europe.

In the months ahead, as our Canadian peacekeepers continue to provide a measure of stability in troubled areas of the world, we must work vigorously to identify and resolve the underlying motives and forces that generate conflict in the first place.

We must not squander the opportunity that history has afforded us. I can assure this House that Canada and Canadians will continue to be in the forefront of the movement toward global peace, and I will continue to report diligently on our progress toward this end.