

culation and trafficking of arms, with special emphasis on small arms.

Canada and the EU recognize the special responsibility that arms exporting states have and are determined to follow high common standards for the management of, and restraint in, conventional arms transfers. To this effect, the Council of the European Union has adopted on 8 June 1998 the Code of Conduct on arms exports. Canada subscribes to the principles and criteria developed in this Code of Conduct.

ANTI-PERSONNEL MINES

Canada and the European Union share the goal of the total elimination of anti-personnel mines world-wide as well as to contributing to solving the problems already caused by these weapons. They welcome the opening for signature one year ago of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction. They are pleased that by now 133 countries have signed or have acceded to the Convention and that within a very short amount of time the trigger point of 40 ratifications has been reached, bringing entry into force on March 1, 1999.

Through such mechanisms as the Mine Action Support Group, Canada and the European Union support the central role played by the U.N. in a range

of humanitarian mine actions worldwide and the coordinating functions of the Mine Action Service. They welcome all efforts to achieve a more coherent response to the challenge posed by the many millions of anti-personnel mines. They will work together to increase global resources for mine action and will enhance their cooperation in the mine action community, specifically through "stocktaking" of mine action in the most seriously afflicted countries to provide guidance for future action.

Canada and the European Union will continue their large scale support and they will identify projects where they and other donors can cooperate to ensure a high degree of coordinated activity in their mine action.

Canada and the European Union recognize the importance of technology across the spectrum of mine action including mapping and surveying, landmine detection, clearance and destruction, and victim assistance. The Canadian Centre for Mine Action Technologies and the Joint Research Centre of the European Commission will work together, with other partners, to establish a Demining Technology Information Forum, on a "landmine signature" project, and on the development of a global network of test and evaluation facilities to promote the quick deployment of useful and affordable technologies for mine action.