

Canada has also ratified Protocols II and IV of the *Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons*, which regulates the use of landmines and other inhumane weapons. This instrument remains an important one, particularly for those countries not yet willing to sign the Ottawa Treaty.

Canada, in co-operation with like-minded partners, is looking at ways to address the proliferation of small arms, which can undermine the security and development efforts of many developing countries as well as contribute to human suffering. Canada takes a three-track approach to this challenge, addressing the arms control, crime prevention and peacebuilding dimensions of the problem at global, regional and national levels. This integrated approach targets supply-side and transit issues, and seeks to cope with post-conflict surplus stocks and reduce the demand for weapons. The problem of small arms is seen as an integral part of conflict prevention and management, peacemaking, peacekeeping and post-conflict reconstruction.

On the arms control track, the emphasis is on promoting measures designed to achieve greater restraint and transparency in legal transfers of small arms and light weapons. Aspects under review include codes of conduct, transparency and registry initiatives, and consciousness-raising activities in security-related bodies such as the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and the OSCE. Of note was the adoption by the OSCE of its innovative *Document on Small Arms and Light Weapons* in November 2000. Canada itself imposes strict controls over the export of firearms, particularly automatic weapons, which can be exported to only a small group of 13 countries with which Canada has concluded intergovernmental defence, research, development and production agreements. These countries, which make up the Automatic Firearms Country Control List (AFCCL), are listed in Annex 1.

On the crime control track, the focus is on supporting measures to counter the significant illicit trade in small arms, which is frequently linked to international organized crime and drug trafficking. In November 1997, Canada signed the *Inter-American Convention Against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives, and other Related Materials*. This convention establishes a reciprocal regime of import, export and transit authorizations for all cross-border movements of small arms, ammunition and explosives. Canada also played a key role in the negotiation of the *Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition*, supplementing the *UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime*.

On the peacebuilding track, Canada supports a broad range of initiatives addressing the humanitarian, governance and practical disarmament aspects of the small arms issue, in co-operation with like-minded governments and non-governmental organizations.