

support. As the Carnegie Commission noted, "although the prevention of deadly conflict requires many tools and strategies, bold leadership and an active constituency are essential, fundamental requirements for these tools to be effective."⁹⁸

Moreover, if rapid deployment is to succeed as a legitimate and widely valued mechanism for conflict prevention, there will be a need to ensure a far more comprehensive and sophisticated approach. Whereas much attention has been devoted to ensuring sufficient 'hard power' (military forces) capable of restoring security, greater efforts will have to be devoted to ensuring they are accompanied by civilian elements that can restore hope and address human needs. Complex political emergencies will demand prompt attention from both. The promising work to develop a greater unity of effort in field operations now needs to be accompanied by a similar unity of effort to influence the political level.

In this respect, there is increasing evidence that the importance of revitalizing and expanding upon UN rapid deployment capabilities has attracted wider interest and started to establish a common bridge between those within the peace and security communities, the new peacekeeping partnership, the peacebuilding network and those concerned with social justice issues. Numerous prominent bodies such as the Commission on Global Governance, the World Federalists' Association, the Campaign For United Nations' Reform, Refugees International, the Center for Defense Information, the Carnegie Commission and the recent Millennium Forum have called for a UN rapid deployment capability, including some form of permanent UN standing force. Cora Weiss, President of the Hague Appeal for Peace, recently identified several of the key problems, as well as the need for a more concerted effort from civil society:

The UN needs a voluntary international military force under a single command and control.

What is lacking is the political will and funding. Civil society needs to organize to muster that will and those funds...The Secretary-General's proposal for a rapid intervention force needs our support.⁹⁹

Clearly, if informed and coordinated, civil society could accelerate this process. Among the challenges that warrant consideration are:

- Identification of interested parties on a transnational basis;
- Preparation and circulation of a background paper to solicit general agreement and support for enhancing UN rapid deployment capabilities as a foundation for the development of a permanent UN standing emergency capability;
- Development of an institutional base of expertise with working groups directed to specific requirements;
- Encouragement of further cooperation and partnerships at all levels of civil society, and;