## The Social-Cultural Dimension

- The world will continue to take on the characteristics of a "global village." There will be an increasingly free flow of information and skilled people across national barriers, resulting in the further rise of transnational businesses and international communications, entertainment and education.
- World events will impact populations directly through the expanding electronic media. The military importance of C<sup>4</sup>I will grow. These developments will have important effects on transparency.
- Environmental consciousness will continue to rise, complicating domestic and international political agendas and generating demands for control of harmful practices and compensation for cross-border, ocean and space pollution. Verification of environmental agreements among countries will become an increasingly important concern.
- Human rights abuses will continue to cause strains with and among some security partners.
- Terrorist threats by unstable governments and radical groups will increase and have serious international ramifications.
- Drug problems may be slowed, but they
  will not be eliminated. Enhanced intelligence
  and surveillance technologies will result in
  improved interdiction capabilities, and
  demand will be reduced with more effective
  cross-national educational, prevention and
  rehabilitation campaigns. However, newstyle criminal organizations will exploit
  advances in technologies in their efforts
  to keep the drug trade in operation.
- Population growth will continue to provide challenges, particularly in the poorer countries, resulting in increased migration and conflict over scarce resources and state boundaries.

## Scientific-Technological Factors

- Technology will drive decision-making much faster than ever before. The constant influx of information and images will alert people to ongoing crises, and the public will demand timely responses.
- The technological sophistication of the Third World will increase. Regional military capabilities will become more advanced and destructive; at the same time, regional economic powers will become more competitive with the advanced industrial states in selected industries. The most advanced states will lose their power to deny sophisticated equipment to those able to pay for it. Domestic economic and social issues, for example, food production and distribution, power generation, mass transit, and environmental pollution will be increasingly resolved by scientific and technological advances, although these may introduce new social and environmental problems.
- Military institutions will increasingly make use of dual-use technologies and processes.
   Proliferation of dual-use technologies and processes will become an even more important, but difficult security policy problem.
- Technology, expertise and materials for weapons of mass destruction will be increasingly available.
- Increased sophistication of monitoring sensors, increased data-processing requirements and capabilities, and advances in computerized data interpretation will affect international transparency.

## Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction, Advanced Delivery Systems, and Destabilizing Accumulations of Conventional Weapons

Proliferation will continue to be an international and regional security concern. A growing number of countries will seek advanced weapons, including nuclear, chemical and biological ones, as well as the missiles and aircraft to deliver them. The military potential and sophistication of the

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