

To effectively carry out a wide range of projects, Canada's Global Partnership Program makes use of various delivery mechanisms, including working in partnership with other countries and with international organizations. The result is a truly cooperative international program that makes effective use of resources.

Canada played a pivotal role as host of the 2002 G8 Summit in Kananaskis in establishing the Global Partnership, and has since continued to demonstrate leadership. Canada was instrumental in efforts to encourage non-G8 countries to participate in the Global Partnership. By March 2006, there were 13 new members, all of which had made significant financial commitments to the Global Partnership. The Partnership now counts 22 members, and aside from close collaboration with Russia, Canada has worked very closely on several projects with the U.S., the U.K., the EU, Japan and Norway. It has demonstrated the seriousness of its non-proliferation commitments among its G8 partners and other countries that are members of the Global Partnership.

The Global Partnership has become a true multinational effort at all levels. Many projects depend on contributions from several countries for their success. In several instances, Canada has contributed to projects that would have not been completed without its participation. Canada will continue to be a strong champion for this level of cooperation.

Canada is now well engaged and is delivering concrete results. Achievements during the last financial year and their impact on reducing the availability of WMD and opportunities for terrorists to acquire them, are outlined in the following sections.

We are really making a difference.

"...Canada is a leader in the Global Partnership Against the Spread of Weapons and Materials of Mass Destruction, whose purpose is to prevent the spread of weapons of mass destruction to terrorists by securing or destroying weapons grade material in the former Soviet Union. Canada is contributing \$1 billion over 10 years to the Global Partnership with over \$250 million already disbursed. Canada has been recognized by both the United States and Russia for the effectiveness of its efforts."

— *Michael Wilson, Canadian Ambassador to the U.S.*
(May 15, 2006)

Destruction of Chemical Weapons

At the end of the Soviet era, the Russian Federation inherited the world's largest stockpile of chemical weapons (approximately 40,000 tonnes). Russia's chemical weapons are stored at seven facilities, six of which are located west of the Ural Mountains and one east. Five of these sites are repositories for the deadly Organophosphorous nerve agents, Sarin, Soman and VX (approximately 32,500 tonnes, or 80 percent of Russia's total CW stockpile). Two others house the Vesicants (i.e., blister agents) mustard, lewisite and lewisite/mustard mixture (roughly 5,500 tonnes, or 20 percent of the total stockpile). Most of the nerve agents remain in their weapons casings, including artillery shells, rocket and missile warheads, aerial bombs and spray tanks. The blister agents are stored in bulk containers. Of particular concern are the nearly four million nerve agent-filled

COMPLYING WITH THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION (CWC)

The CWC requires all States Parties possessing chemical weapons to destroy them in a safe and environmentally friendly manner. While a State Party may select and apply the appropriate destruction methods for its chemical weapons, certain methods (i.e., dumping in any body of water, land burial or open-pit burning) are not permitted. The CWC also establishes timelines for the destruction of CW stocks, and stipulates that final destruction of national

stockpiles is to be accomplished by April 29, 2007. In exceptional circumstances, however, a five-year extension of this deadline may be granted (i.e., April 29, 2012). The Russian Federation has formally requested this extension. In October 2005, the Russian government adopted a revised CW destruction plan, which outlines how Russia plans to achieve 100 percent destruction by 2012.