## **Peace Operations**

- The term "peace operations" is becoming, at least in UN circles, an accepted shorthand notion for the complex, interwoven and multidisciplinary actions undertaken by the international community in the search for peace and security. These actions include preventive diplomacy, peacemaking, peacekeeping, peace enforcement and post-conflict peace-building.
- Preventive diplomacy is in many ways another term for confidence-building, and its methods, such as fact-finding, can be described as confidence-building measures, even if the fact-finding is done by a third party.
- Peacekeeping, though not envisaged in the UN Charter, has been one of the most successful innovative techniques of conflict control and resolution arrived at by the Security Council to execute its mandate, including its role in arms control, disarmament and nonproliferation. The scope of peacekeeping operations has expanded, with more and more mandates clearly including provisions for arms control and disarmament.
- UN peace operations not only benefit from lessons learned in the development of arms control verification and confidence-building measures, but lessons learned during peace operations should in turn benefit the other two processes. As Table 1 demonstrates, linkages among the three processes can be found in certain UN peace operations.
- The development of techniques to dispose of arms and to detect and remove millions of deployed land mines is another example of

cross-fertilization between some technologies associated with arms control verification and post-conflict peace-building.

## The United Nations

- The United Nations will continue to be an important body, charged with peace and security responsibilities, however it changes or expands in terms of structure, mission and authority, and whether or not all members contribute their fair share of resources.
- There is considerable room for improvement in the quantity, quality and timeliness of the information that should be made available to UN decision makers.
- Individual states must be constantly encouraged to provide appropriate UN bodies with pertinent information that comes to their attention by whatever means, including national technical means (NTM), providing their own analysis where appropriate.
- The development of UN Risk Reduction Centres and processes could facilitate exchanges of military information and officers, inspections of military facilities, and the observation of military exercises. These measures, presently in use in Europe, should be exported to other regions of the globe.
- UN offices in the field should be further developed to facilitate transparency measures. At the present time, UN "Resident Representatives" and their staff are assisting with activities normally outside their area of responsibility.
- The development of UN "embassies" in certain unstable regions of the world would permit the acquisition of fresh information concerning global or regional problems; the "embassies" would be invaluable in assisting the deployment of a peacekeeping, humanitarian or disaster relief mission.
- The UN should play a leading role in the creation or modification of regional and/or interstate and intrastate arrangements that

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