

government, provided an opportunity for Canada to pass along the lessons learned from its experience in verifying conventional arms control agreements. Department of National Defence staff have conducted inspections in six countries under the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe (CFE) and three under the CSCE Vienna Document on confidence- and security-building measures. They have participated in approximately 60 trial inspections with Canada's allies.

The seminar complemented a growing bilateral defence relationship between Canada and South Korea. In June 1992, EAITC officials participated in a verification workshop in Seoul. In September, the Korean National Defense College visited Canada, followed by Korean Minister of Defense Choi Sae-Chong in October, the first visit to the other by a defence minister of either country. South Korea has been actively involved in the non-governmental track of Canada's cooperative security dialogue initiative in the North Pacific. Canada expects the December seminar to lead to further practical cooperation in security and related fields, including other aspects of arms control as well as peacekeeping.

In March 1992, Canada hosted a similar five-day verification workshop for representatives of countries of the former Soviet Union. That seminar, conducted in cooperation with the Netherlands and with the assistance of NATO, focused on verification requirements of the CFE Treaty. ■

First Committee Meets Canadian Goals

The First Committee of the 47th session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA 47), held in the fall of 1992, was a general success. As at UNGA 46, delegations continued to break down the ideological divide that had stymied past sessions, and to pursue a more pragmatic approach. For the first time, the Committee adopted over 60 percent of its resolutions by consensus. Canada achieved all of its objectives, with the related resolutions passed either by consensus or by a strong majority vote.

The Canadian delegation, led by Ambassador for Disarmament Peggy Mason, entered the session with six main goals.

CWC

Canada aimed to promote a resolution calling on UNGA to adopt the draft Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) and to set an early date for its signature. There was some concern that countries would continue to pursue CWC negotiating objectives through modifications to the resolution text and that others might try to incorporate a higher national or group profile. Canada, along with Germany and Poland, successfully led the campaign to ensure that the Committee passed by consensus — with a record 144 co-sponsors — a resolution endorsing the Convention and specifying a January 1993 signing date.

NPT

Working with others, Canada hoped to ensure a smooth launch of the process leading to an indefinite extension of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) at the Treaty's Fifth Review Conference in 1995. The First Committee passed a resolution mandating the formation of a Review Conference Preparatory Committee, which will hold its first meeting in New York from May 10 to 14. One hundred and thirty-three countries voted in favour of the resolution, no country opposed it, and only Cuba and India abstained. In the subsequent General Assembly vote, the "yes" count increased to 168, although India afterwards requested that its vote, mistakenly cast as "yes," be changed to an abstention.

Transparency in Armaments

Canada wanted to follow up on the UNGA 46 establishment of a UN arms register, which is a key component of Canada's action plan to prevent excessive build-ups of conventional arms. At UNGA 47, the Canadian delegation campaigned in favour of a resolution endorsing the report of a panel of experts, which specifies procedures for the register's operation (see *Disarmament Bulletin 19* for details). This will enable 1992 reports to be submitted on schedule, by April 30, 1993. The resolution was adopted by consensus.

Verification

Canada took the lead in drafting a resolution that called, in effect, for an update of the Canadian-initiated 1990 UN study of the UN role in verification. The aim was to take account of lessons learned from the experience of the UN Special Commission on Iraq (UNSCOM), and to consider how verification could facilitate UN activities with respect to preventive diplomacy, peacekeeping, peacemaking and peacebuilding. The resolution met with some opposition from countries that, *inter alia*, questioned the usefulness of studying the UNSCOM experience at this stage. Canada crafted an amended resolution that delays the proposed study while Member States' views are solicited. The amended resolution passed by consensus.

Canada Pays 1993 UN Contribution

On December 31, 1992, External Affairs Minister Barbara McDougall announced that Canada has paid its annual assessed contributions to the 1993 Regular Budget of the United Nations and of the major UN specialized agencies.

"By making payment before the end of the year," said Mrs. McDougall, "Canada wishes to show our support for the essential work of the United Nations in international peace and security, humanitarian assistance, and furthering human rights and development throughout the world. Payment of UN dues in full and on time is a treaty obligation, and Canada calls upon all Member States to meet their obligations in a timely fashion." The Minister stressed that the UN continues to face a serious financial crisis that threatens its ability to carry out the new tasks that it is regularly asked to take on, particularly in the field of peacekeeping.

Canada's assessed contribution to the UN's Regular Budget for 1993 stands at 3.11 percent, or US \$31,743,607. Canada has also paid its 1993 assessed contributions to the major UN specialized agencies, including the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). In addition to its contribution to the UN's Regular Budget, Canada pays assessed contributions of about US \$80 million a year to 10 UN peacekeeping operations.