

economists, political scientists, and area experts. The main problem plaguing the practice of assessment is not a lack of information; it is a lack of the political will required to set the process in motion. Canada should use its seat on the Security Council to ensure that the Council receives such assessments as a matter of course, both prior to and during the imposition of sanctions.

- Canada should support discussions aimed at developing the idea of 'humanitarian limits' which would guide the Council in its deliberations regarding sanctions. Such an exercise would move beyond existing, general statements of intent by seeking consensus answers to questions such as: When does a humanitarian emergency exist? How should sanctions be modified to reflect the changing situation on the ground? Under a sanctions regime, who bears the responsibility for ameliorating the suffering of innocent civilians?

- Security Council resolutions must outline clear guidelines governing humanitarian exemptions to sanctions. The exemptions process would also benefit from the creation of a generic, item-based list of exemptions, the consistent application of these standards, transparent procedures involving open deliberations and the widespread dissemination of documents among the members of sanctions committees, decentralization of the authority to approve exemptions, and enhanced communication and coordination between the UN secretariat and member states.

*c) Approaches to reform: the interstate level*