

PRIORITIES FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

Prevent the spread and reduce the existing stocks of WMD

Strengthen international export control regimes on proliferation-sensitive technologies and build the capacity of countries to enforce them

KEY INITIATIVES

- Protect Canadian ports against their potential use for illicit activities, including the movement of drugs, weapons and other contraband
- Participate in joint training missions and information sharing with other partners in the Proliferation Security Initiative
- Expand the G8 Global Partnership Program
- Use the 2005 NPT Review Conference to promote the strengthening of the Treaty's commitment to non-proliferation, disarmament, and peaceful uses of nuclear energy
- Contribute Canadian technology to strengthening the international community's WMD compliance and verification mechanisms
- Use the Conference on Disarmament to re-engage key countries in talks on the Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space

Canada will create a faster, more efficient, but fair domestic asylum system that enjoys public and partner confidence. We will work with other countries and international organizations to intensify the focus on facilitating protection for refugees, IDPs and other war-affected populations. As part of these efforts, Canada will continue to strongly support the UN Secretary-General's efforts to improve the UN humanitarian response system, and enhance our own responses, in line with the principles and practices of humanitarian donorship.

Combatting Proliferation

The international community continues to face the prospect that weapons of mass destruction (WMD)—chemical, nuclear, radiological or biological—might be used by a state or terrorist organization. The desire to acquire these weapons is often driven by regional tensions—in the Middle East, India-Pakistan and the Korean peninsula—and misguided attempts to gain international prestige. Terrorists, who until now have focused on tactics involving car bombs and suicide bombers, are seeking new ways to inflict the maximum

amount of damage on their victims. An attack with such weapons could have an immense impact on Canada, no matter where in the world it might occur.

The nuclear non-proliferation regime—the cornerstone of which is the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT)—is under pressure. A number of countries remain outside of the Treaty, and several of them have shared nuclear material and expertise. Recent revelations about nuclear trafficking networks underscore the growing commercial dimension of proliferation. In addition, the means of delivering these lethal weapons have become easier to access, whether through high technology systems like long-range missiles, or unconventional means, such as shipping containers. The international community urgently needs stronger interdiction methods—at sea, on land, and in the air—and new legal mechanisms to facilitate the search of suspicious vessels, trucks and aircraft.

Concerted international action is also required to restore the effectiveness of arms control regimes and to maintain the confidence of the vast majority of countries that now supports them. Here, and in broader counter-proliferation efforts, we have a natural