

countries. It was emphasized that help is most often wanted in the form of economic reconstruction to aid in the rebuilding of roads, bridges, and airports. Social development has been traditionally defined as something that occurs after economic development has taken place. The general consensus was that state governments need to commit funds and personnel towards addressing the issues and problems associated with child victims, rape victims, child soldiers, etc..., as part of the peacebuilding process rather than following the "economic development first" model. The important contribution of Canadian and international non-governmental organizations and church organizations in delivering this kind of assistance was noted.

- The question of what Canadian youth could contribute to the peacebuilding process, particularly with reference to rebuilding criminal justice institutions, was then introduced. A suggestion was made that programs could be developed loosely based on a "training camp" or "college" model for young demobilized combatants and "child-soldiers". Several participants emphasized once again, that this type of project would have to take place over a fairly long period, since the "re-socialization" "de-programing" which must take place can only occur over a period of time. Such programs could allow young Canadians to get involved as well as to gain experience in their own professional fields as well as in the international development field. A focus on helping youths from requesting countries ought, in any event, to be an important part of any peacebuilding initiative. A focus on demobilized young combatants may be especially appropriate since this group is likely to produce many of the countries future leaders. Furthermore, by working with youth combatants from all sides of the conflict, the program could help foster a new understanding of and new respect for previous enemies. Canadian youth could contribute to the development of programs to assist, educate and provide child soldiers with the tools they need to re-integrate into their society and make a useful contribution to long-term peace. Children and youth from war-torn countries could also benefit from a part of the program that would allow them the opportunity to visit Canada and perhaps witness how youth in Canada play an active role in civil society.
- Finally, comments were made regarding overseas assistance. The futility of tying economic aid to specific projects favoring the donor country was mentioned as an example of how forcing countries to adopt specific programs or meet specific requirements often end with unsuccessful and/or short term solutions to the problems being addressed. Some participants countered this argument however, by stating that tying aid could still be feasible if it put the mechanisms into place so that peacebuilders did not have to return to the same area due to a resurgence of the conflict. Canada much teach by the example it gives. To do so, the links between Canada's trade and human rights policy must be reviewed and debated publicly. That particular debate is one which should involve youth.