

credibility in particular will suffer.

Despite the fact that inter-communal conflict is clearly not easily or quickly resolved, and that **sustained international involvement** is required to anchor emerging national confidence in State institutions, the Security Council (the US in particular) is increasingly obsessed with 'early exit scenarios'. PKOs can not be mere photo opportunities for troop contributing nations. Sustained commitment over time will be the key to success in many cases.

Finally, in An Agenda For Peace Mr. Boutros-Ghali stresses the importance of **peace-building** in order to consolidate fragile peace settlements through economic rehabilitation and development. The UN has not always demonstrated much follow-through in this regard. Worse, as Alvaro de Soto and Graziana del Castillo have pointed out in connection with El Salvador, the International Financial Institutions and the UN sometimes act at cross-purposes.³² For example, IBRD assistance for Rwanda was scandalously slow to materialize, even once approved by the Bank's Executive Board. This contributed to scepticism in Rwanda about the depth of the international community's commitment to reconstruction there and about the usefulness of further cooperation with international institutions, notably the UN.

The UN's own family of development agencies has not always performed any better. The international community needs to get its act together and better calibrate its use of **political and economic instruments** to introduce or reintroduce war-torn countries to civil society, anchoring peace in a framework of fulfilled economic aspirations. Economic incentives matter. A sustained effort, involving billions of dollars, has been made by the donor community to underwrite Cambodia's development efforts since 1991. A similar pattern of donor cooperation is developing in Haiti. This type of approach should be the norm rather than the exception. However, it requires donor governments to ensure that their foreign and defence ministries work in tandem with their treasuries and aid agencies - a tall order in several capitals.

Conclusion

Adam Roberts, identifies the following challenges to improved UN performance in peacekeeping and peace enforcement:

The main problems include: the failure to reach a clear and agreed view of the strategic and political purposes of involvements in complex and fast-changing situations; the persistent, by

³² See Alvaro de Soto and Graziana del Castillo, Obstacles to Peacebuilding, Foreign Policy, Number 94, Spring 1994.