

- The two transparency measures reviewed under the section entitled Information CSBMs (a nuclear weapons register and transparency among the NWSs) would do no harm, but should not be a particularly high priority. Transparency in conventional arms, leading to the UN Register of Conventional Arms, is important because there is no consensus on restraint, let alone reduction. Such is not the case in relation to nuclear weapons.
- The third information measure, strengthening missile launch warnings and including all the NWSs, is potentially useful in its own right, and also provides possible support for two other measures. First of all, any improvement in missile early warning makes de-alerting/demating that much easier to countenance. Secondly, improved early warning could serve to bolster the ABM Treaty, and make deployment of a BMD system less likely.
- An explicit timeframe for nuclear disarmament and/or negotiations on a nuclear weapons convention is premature. Once nuclear weapons have been removed from routine provision of security among the NWSs and their allies, the conditions may allow for the consideration of a staged programme leading to nuclear disarmament. At present, pushing such a timetable or early convention negotiation is likely to damage the prospects for more urgent priorities.
- The CTBT is of vital importance to the future of the nonproliferation and disarmament agenda. There is very little that can be done directly to bring about its entry into force at present. However, the measures endorsed by this report should, if achieved, create conditions which would make entry into force much more likely. Such an outcome is, unfortunately, very much dependent on the domestic politics of the United States, an issue outside the purview of this report.
- A fissile material cutoff treaty would rank only just behind the measures identified above in terms of its contribution to global community-building. The FMCT, particularly if married to the adoption of the new IAEA safeguard protocols by all NNWSs Party to the NPT and by Parties to the FMCT, would significantly reduce the inequity at the heart of the NPT by subjecting the NWSs to the same restrictions as the NNWSs.

Recommendations for Canadian Policy

Canada is in a unique position in relation to nuclear disarmament. It has a long tradition as a supporter of arms control and disarmament, combined with its traditions of multilateralism. This combination has been seen most recently in the Ottawa Process and its resulting Landmines Convention. At the same time, Canada's military security policy is nuclear-armed. It is a member of a nuclear alliance, and routinely cites that alliance as central to Canadian security. In addition, Canada is a member of an air defence system with the United States, a system which will take on added salience with the increased attention the United States is paying to ballistic missile defence.