

were also discussed.

Most recently, the Group on Defence Matters met and reviewed defence cooperation activities, including a number of peacekeeping seminars and training sessions planned for 1993 by the NACC Ad Hoc Group on Cooperation in Peacekeeping.

Canada's contributions to date include: hosting a seminar on the role of the military in democratic societies (Montebello, February 1992); funding for NACC training sessions on civil and emergency planning (NATO School, Germany, 1992-93); and funding for the Canadian NACC internship program at NATO headquarters in Brussels.

NACC consultations and cooperation are intended to help meet the legitimate security concerns of cooperation partners and thereby to enable them to focus their resources on consolidating their democratic institutions. NACC has been particularly helpful in establishing contacts with senior level defence and military officials in the cooperating countries. The time, however, has come to move from contacts to substantive practical cooperation and assistance.

Some cooperation partners, including Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic, continue to press NATO for security guarantees and full NATO membership. NATO's response to date has been that the expansion of NATO membership at this time would not enhance European security and that the security interests of non-NATO countries — including Russia — should be taken into account.

CSCE Conflict Management

At the Helsinki Summit of July 1992, the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe decided to further strengthen its role in conflict management. The Summit established a wide range of instruments to this end: mechanisms for fact-finding, rapporteur and CSCE-mandated peacekeeping missions; early warning mechanisms (e.g., the High Commissioner on National Minorities); and mechanisms for the peaceful settlement of disputes (such as the Convention on Conciliation and Arbitration within the CSCE, approved by the CSCE Council

meeting in Stockholm in December).

Since the Helsinki Summit, in addition to dispatching a large number of short-term rapporteur missions, the CSCE has established a number of missions on the ground in Eastern and Central Europe, the former Yugoslavia and the former Soviet Union. These missions, initiated relatively quickly with minimal infrastructure and modest costs, have established an international presence in potential conflict areas and, in some cases, initiated or supported a framework for political dialogue.

As a strong proponent of a more vigorous CSCE role in conflict management, Canada views these "preventive diplomacy" missions as a great success, providing the CSCE with an additional instrument for addressing tensions and managing crises. CSCE missions are deployed in the following areas:

Georgia-Ossetia

In November 1992, the CSCE established an eight-person team composed equally of civilian and military personnel in Ossetia, Georgia to undertake discussions with all parties to promote civil order and political reconciliation. The mission is to maintain contact with local authorities and military commanders of the Commonwealth of Independent States peacekeeping forces. The mission is also tasked with facilitating a political solution to the conflict in Abkhazia. The size of the mission was recently enlarged to eleven members and its mandate extended to August.

Moldova-Trans-Dniestr

The initial six-month mandate of the CSCE mission, which began in March, is to facilitate a lasting and comprehensive political settlement to the conflict between forces from the Republic of Moldova, forces of the self-proclaimed Trans-Dniestr Moldovan Republic, and Russian soldiers stationed in the region. Last June, more than 1,000 people were killed and over 100,000 displaced in the fighting.

Estonia

Established in February, the initial six-month mandate of the CSCE mission is to promote stability, dialogue and understanding between Estonian- and Russian-speaking communities in the country.

Kosovo, Sandjak and Vojvodina

In September 1992, the CSCE established "Missions of Long Duration" to Kosovo, Sandjak and Vojvodina in the former Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and

Montenegro). The missions' mandate is to promote dialogue between the various parties, to attempt to resolve specific local differences, and to collect information on human rights violations. The three regions are considered vulnerable to "spillover" from the conflict elsewhere in the former Yugoslavia. The size of the missions has recently been increased and their mandate extended to August 31.

Skopje

Also in September, the CSCE established a "Spillover Mission" for six months in Skopje, the capital of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. The mission's mandate is to attempt to prevent the spillover of the conflict elsewhere in the former Yugoslavia. The mission's mandate was recently extended to August 31.

Sanctions Assistance

In addition, the CSCE has deployed "Sanctions Assistance Missions" to a number of states neighbouring the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) to assist them in implementing UN sanctions. Such missions are deployed in: Croatia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, Hungary, Romania, Bulgaria and Albania.

Focus: On IAEA Safeguards

Desire to promote the peaceful uses of nuclear energy combined with concern about the spread of nuclear weapons led countries to conclude the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons in the late 1960s. The Non-Proliferation Treaty is widely regarded as the world's most important multilateral arms control agreement. It has done a great deal to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons and has become the cornerstone of peaceful nuclear trade, especially for countries such as Canada.

Despite the NPT, however, worries about the spread of nuclear weapons still exist. A number of countries with nuclear programs have not signed the NPT. Furthermore, it is always possible that nuclear material used in peaceful nuclear research and the electricity-generating industry could be diverted by any country — even an NPT signatory — to develop a nuclear