

through our Development Aid Program, which gives access to Canadian technologies and services, technical training, management expertise and applied research. We shall also continue to work through multilateral institutions.

Canada and China continue to support efforts to deal with the question of air and water quality under a special environmental Memorandum of Understanding between our respective governments. We will continue to help finance and assist a high-level council of experts on environment and development. Within the context of updating our bilateral Development Assistance Program with China, we will be looking at innovative and creative means to give even greater substance to our efforts to co-operate with China in the environmental sector.

CIDA [the Canadian International Development Agency] will be asked to continue to help the Chinese government develop national policies that recognize the links between economic growth, social development and the environment and continue to support other activities and institutions in China to ensure progress in these areas. This will help provide opportunities for Canadian companies to promote environmental technologies in China, consistent with our Red Book commitments, as well as for academic and non-governmental institutions to provide their invaluable expertise.

Peace and security

Canadians have long been committed to promoting international peace and security. In Asia, peace and security obviously require the full participation of one of the most powerful and influential countries in the region.

This government believes that regional multilateral organizations should play an increasingly important role in the 21st century. We therefore intend to engage China in a dialogue on regional security questions. To this end, we have invited a high-level delegation from China to visit Canada in the near future to discuss regional security and non-proliferation questions.

From a regional security perspective, no issue is more troubling than heightened tensions on the Korean peninsula. It is absolutely clear that any deterioration in the security situation there would have grave consequences for Canadian interests. China has a major role to play in defusing those tensions.

Canada has been an important player in nuclear non-proliferation talks. Negotiations will soon begin on the indefinite extension of the Non-Proliferation Treaty and on a Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty. If we view these treaties as essential to world peace and security, then we must engage all the parties concerned including China, as a major nuclear power. Our objective in our