

**JOINT CANADA-US GENDER SENSITIZATION TRAINING FOR  
CIVILIAN AND MILITARY PARTICIPANTS OF PEACE OPERATIONS**

**FIRST BILATERAL OFFICIALS MEETING**

**OTTAWA, WEDNESDAY 27 MAY 1998  
8:30 - 15:00 B3-500**

**POINTS OF REFERENCE**

**1. Bilateral initiative's genesis and objective:**

Canada and the US agreed during Secretary of State Albright's visit to Minister Axworthy last March 1998 to develop jointly gender-sensitization training for civilian and military participants involved in peace operations. The initiative comes as result of a common recognition of the need to integrate a gender awareness into peacebuilding policy, strategies and operations.

**2. Policy context:**

This bilateral initiative is in keeping with the conclusions drawn from the 1995 Beijing World Conference on Women and the ECOSOC 1997 Agreed Conclusions on mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the UN system.

The initiative is also in keeping with Canada's current efforts to develop, within the context of the Canadian Peacebuilding Initiative and in close collaboration with representatives of the non-governmental sector, an integrated gender approach to peacebuilding policy, strategies and operations.

**3. Proposed product:**

A pilot/prototypical gender-sensitization training course delivered at a specific location within the next year to a set number of civilian and military participants involved in peace operations.

**4. Proposed implementing agency and location for delivery:**

The Lester B. Pearson Canadian International Peacekeeping Training Centre (PPC).

**5. Possible participants:**

Sample distribution of participants as per the main functions involved in peace operations, ie. the diplomatic, humanitarian, military and civilian policing components. Participants to the pilot training should include civilian and military personnel, and representatives from UNDPKO, UNDP and at least one regional organization. The composition should reflect as much as possible a realistic participants' functional and geographic distribution.