

public even more than having one. Minister Axworthy may be expected to come up with a strong resolution in the wake of criticism resulting from what some believe to be a "soft" reaction to the Harker Report. While a resolution is being crafted (calling primarily for the peace process to coalesce around IGAD and the Declaration of Principles), there is a possibility the Security Council will discuss Sudan and produce a memo instead. Nevertheless, efforts to garner support for the resolution have started and the countries in opposition to its passage have a chance to reconsider their position.

Canada could exhort influence as a member of the IPF. Through a UN resolution a strong message could be sent to the IPF members that Canada is a player. Canada could also participate/create a safe forum under the auspices of the IPF and bring parties together to talk about human security (as their common/interdependent interest). However, the perceptions of human security abroad as a tool of Northern neocolonialism may be an obstacle. Another problem may be IGAD's resistance to such an initiative (IGAD members tend to monopolise the peace process and see it as exclusively their affair).

Canada could share its experience in the concept of self-determination without secession and various forms of "non-sovereign" governance -- themes that come to focus when addressing Aboriginal and Quebec issues. Federalism at the local level, such as teachers' federations and so on, as well as Canada's experience with multiculturalism and civil society may also be of some value. *Canada's history of peacefully and creatively working on these ideas of governance, coexistence, and civil society engagement may have some bearing in other parts of the world.* Canada could play a role of a supporting and/or convening agent for a local group/organisation on these issues. Caution was raised that if such an outside-led process breaks down, it can do more harm than good as people involved and on the ground lose faith. (An example is a UNDP-led initiative in Barcelona in the early 1990's. Two meetings of prominent experts, analysts, academics, as well as parties to the Sudan conflict, including the SPLA, met in a conference to address issues in the Sudan conflict, like religious freedom. The process lacked sustainability and broke down.) Nevertheless, it is advisable to convene such events around inconspicuous small issues that may seem isolated from the larger context (i.e., the improvement of a tax system). From these small straightforward issues stem bigger, more contentious questions (i.e., self-determination, reform of administration and governance) around which convening and negotiating is difficult.

Other Canadian assets include:

- military and other alliances/partnerships with the U.S.,
- experience/expertise in peacekeeping,
- experience/expertise in peacebuilding (CIDA).

A point was raised that instead of concentrating on bilateral and unilateral action toward/in Sudan the international community could be made more effective. The IGAD peace process should remain central. Furthermore, some pointed out that peace and security are not necessarily common/interdependent. There are parties that benefit from conflict and have