

"This report illustrates the Government's commitment to ensuring a vigorous and effective United Nations at a time of increased demand for peacekeeping," said Mr. Collenette.

Mr. Ouellet explained: "We acknowledge that fundamental reform is not an easy task, especially in the midst of financial crisis. But the capability to respond rapidly in certain situations is not only appropriate, but highly cost-effective in comparison to the price - in both human and monetary terms - of not acting quickly."

Tomorrow morning in New York, Mr. Ouellet will co-chair with his counterpart from the Netherlands a meeting of foreign ministers from 13 countries to discuss a rapid reaction capability for the UN.

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