

many of which have been raised in this paper. This needs to take place not just in the heat of a mission, but far in advance. The second is to regularly share information and knowledge among experts and practitioners, again in a dispassionate environment.

There are a number of ways that these processes can take place. Last year in Britain the British army participated in Rebuild 97, a simulation that explored the civilian-military perception of PSOs.⁴³ Canada can engage in similar and regular scenario building or simulation exercises that reflect the realities of PSOs on the ground, at the UN, and in Ottawa. Participants in these simulations should include both civilian and military practitioners who engage in realistic and perhaps reverse role playing. These simulations can provide the players with an appreciation of each others perspectives and constraints as well as set the ground for better cooperation and coordination.

Canada could organize regular conferences, perhaps biannually, of players from the UN and in the field to discuss problems, approaches, solutions and best practices. These conferences could serve as reviews and progress reports. The opportunity (and excuse) for the first such conference will take place in November this year on the tenth anniversary of the election in Namibia. This anniversary conference could provide a retrospective of PSOs in the nineties since UNTAG, and include those individuals -- from the UN, the field, and Ottawa -- with experience in recent and past operations dating back to 1989. The conference should address a host of recent issues germane to the conduct of PSOs (e.g. UN reform, coordination problems, working with the World Bank), but would also look at the progress that has been made. At least a part of the conference should look at policy options for Canada. Funding could then be sought from the John Holmes Fund in addition to all relevant Canadian Departments and Agencies. Canada should also sponsor more frequent seminars on peacebuilding during PSOs, inviting specialists and experts to give talks and exchange viewpoints on different aspects and perspectives.

Anthony Verrier, "Rebuild97: a Simulated Exercise for Peace Support Operation."
International Peacekeeping, Vol. 5 No. 2 (Summer 1998), pp. 103-111.