Summary of Key Points from Presentations and Discussions: The San Diego Roundtable on Trends in U.S. Foreign Policy

March 20, 2001

The Canadian Centre for Foreign Policy Development and Institute on Global Conflict and Cooperation, University of California

San Diego, California, U.S.A.

On March 20, 2001, the Canadian Centre for Foreign Policy Development, in partnership with the Institute on Global Conflict and Cooperation at the University of San Diego (California), organised a roundtable on Trends in U.S. Foreign Policy. The roundtable launched a series of discussions which will take place in the U.S. and Canada in the near future (Edmonton - April 12, Washington - April 2, Toronto - May 18, Halifax - TBD, Denver - TBD). The San Diego Roundtable brought together prominent U.S. thinkers and former officials to address:

- 1) security in Asia,
- 2) Hemisphere Summits,
- 3) democracy in Latin America,
- 4) international trade and telecommunications,
- 5) Ballistic Missile Defence, and
- 6) the integration of Europe.

Among the participants were Ron Bee (Institute on Global Conflict and Cooperation, UCSD), Richard Feinberg (Graduate School of International Relations and Pacific Studies, UCSD), and Susan Shirk (Institute on Global Conflict and Cooperation, UCSD). The discussion was chaired by Steven Lee (Canadian Centre for Foreign Policy Development) and web-cast by Liss Jeffrey (byDesign eLab, McLuhan Program in Culture and Technology, University of Toronto). Blair Bobyk (U.S. Relations Division) and Marketa Geislerova (CCFPD) attended from DFAIT.

I. Asia – Security Issues

Speaker: Susan Shirk (Research Director, IGCC)

There has been at least a rhetorical shift in the approach of the Bush Administration toward China and Japan. China is no longer seen as a "constructive strategic partner," as was the case under the Clinton Administration, and relations with Japan seemed to have warmed-up. In this context, a recommendation was made to proceed cautiously so that a confrontation with the Chinese government is avoided and security in North East Asia