



### Combatting illicit drugs

The trade in illicit drugs and the abuse of such substances together constitute a threat to people, communities and states. They entail social and health costs, and undermine the stability of states, effective governance, respect for human rights and development.

Canada is actively involved in the fight against illicit drugs. It is leading a Hemispheric Dialogue Group on drugs and human security in the Americas, and it chairs the negotiations in the Organization of American States for the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism on Drugs. Canada is also involved in several other forums; one is the Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, with participation from agencies in Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean.

### Transnational organized crime

A major threat to human security is organized crime, including migrant smuggling, trafficking in women and children, trafficking in illicit firearms, corruption, and money laundering.

Through the G-8 leading nations' Lyon Group, Canada has worked to co-ordinate positions and promote negotiation of a Transnational Organized

Crime Convention and its protocols. The aim is to protect people by adopting measures for deterring and prosecuting criminals. Canada has provided the draft for a firearms trafficking protocol to the Convention; this is now the basis for negotiations.

### Human rights field operations

Canada played a prominent role in the creation of the post of United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in 1993. The Office of the High Commissioner is responsible in particular for human rights at the UN. Moreover, Canada works to ensure that peacekeeping and other peace support operations integrate human rights considerations. In order for Canada to be ready to provide qualified and professional personnel for field missions on short notice, the government supports the Canadian Resource Bank for Democracy and Human Rights (CANADEM), a stand-by roster of human rights experts.



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