

dissemination, the mobilization of public opinion, and through the provision of expertise, financial assistance, training and other operational activities. The reluctance of post-conflict governments to address women's concerns can be overcome through the financial and technical support of women's groups.

## Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration

• The G8 should evaluate the impact of the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of combatants on the peacebuilding process and programs. These programs should take into account, with the help of women's organizations, the specific needs, experiences and capacities of female ex-combatants and war widows. G8 members should ensure HIV/AIDS prevention programs are integrated into demobilization strategies and programs.

## **Corporate Social Responsibility**

- The G8 can encourage its members to make clear distinctions between peace and conflict zones. In peace zones, the G8 and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) member states can harmonize voluntary codes of conflict for corporations, using incentives such as tax cuts and voluntary standards. An international and independent body of experts could conduct fact-finding missions for corporations with foreign operations and provide context-specific advice on conflict prevention considerations.
- In conflict zones, the G8 can devise a set of legal regulations for the conduct of corporations already operating in conflict zones. An international body working with

- home and host governments and regional organizations can monitor compliance. Penalties for violation would be determined and enforced by the home country.
- The G8 countries can discourage initial investment in conflict zones with legislation similar to the OECD's Convention on Bribery, requiring signatories to outlaw violations by companies operating in signatory jurisdictions.

These recommendations were the result of a policy options paper prepared by John Kirton, Gina Stephens and Kristiana Powell of the G8 Information Centre, University of Toronto (March 2002).

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## Policy recommendation summary:

- The present global power relationships between donors and recipients must be transformed in the context of a New International Economic Order which would foster a true partnership between African countries and the global community.
- Good political governance requires a longterm commitment to support democratic mechanisms of political legitimacy.
- Good economic and corporate governance requires a new culture of management that eschews corruption and promotes corporate responsibility and accountability.
- Supporting peace and security initiatives on the African continent, including conflict prevention, and Human Security are important to African renewal. Conflict breeds poverty, displacement, refugees and social exclusion.