

DRAFT CONVENTION ON TERRORIST BOMBING OFFENCES

At the initiative of the P-8, announced at the Lyon Summit in 1996, a Working Group of the UN Sixth (Legal Affairs) Committee was tasked (by GA Res. 51/210) to elaborate a *Convention on the Suppression of Terrorist Bombing Offences*. This new legal instrument would

- require States Parties to criminalize offences relating to the use of explosive or other lethal devices (including biological and chemical agents and devices causing death or injury through radiation) in public places or against specified targets, including government and infrastructure facilities;
- require States Parties to take jurisdiction over such offences, including offences committed abroad in certain circumstances, and to prosecute or extradite offenders found on their territory
- provide for information exchanges and other forms of cooperation between parties.

Canada took an active role in the drafting of the initial text that formed the platform of discussion in the Sixth Committee, and in the negotiations that followed.

DFAIT's Legal Adviser, Philippe Kirsch was appointed to chair the Working Group, which had its first meeting in New York February 24-March 7, 1997.