
dislocations produced by the war. A coordinated response, presumably through existing international agencies, will be required.

Some institution, either existing or new, could provide the basis for coordination of post-war reconstruction efforts to reinforce essential economic cooperation among the states of the Middle East. The countries concerned could use such an institution to deal with serious underlying problems which confront them, and perhaps explore the development of funding mechanisms aimed at a broader distribution of the benefits of natural wealth.

THE PROLIFERATION OF WEAPONRY

The costs of this crisis in human, economic and political terms are large and growing, but perhaps they can be partially offset if we have the foresight and the political will to learn the lessons it teaches. Foremost among these is the threat posed by the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their delivery systems, as well as by massive build-ups of conventional weapons.

A strong cooperative regional framework would reduce the motivation for excessive arms build-ups in the region, which have clearly contributed to the risks of conflict in the region. It must be recognized, however, that a special responsibility for arms build-ups resides with the major exporters and states leading in the development of weapons technology. New efforts among this group, but also reaching beyond to include other arms exporters, should be undertaken to ensure greater sensitivity to the problems inherent in the export of armaments and their technology and to encourage transparency and constraint.

In developing and implementing a program of action to deal with concerns regarding the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, the focus should be placed on global measures which will be as equitable as possible to all members of the international community. Efforts to enhance the effectiveness of export controls, a valuable and vital component of non-proliferation measures, need to be pursued with the guiding principle of non-discrimination in mind. The objective is clearly to deal with the proliferation of these weapons, not to prevent the use of technologies involved for established peaceful purposes.