



Signing of the historic treaty to implement bilateral cooperation between Canada and Russia under the Global Partnership, June 2002

## Canada and the Global Partnership Program

In keeping with commitments made at the G8 Kananaskis Summit in 2002, the Government of Canada authorized the establishment of Canada's Global Partnership Program with a funding allocation of up to \$1 billion over 10 years. Project funding commenced in 2003.

### Setting the Stage

#### Canada's Role and Priorities

As host of the 2002 G8 Summit in Kananaskis and as the first chair of the GPSOG, Canada played a pivotal role in establishing and shaping the *Global Partnership Against the Spread of Weapons and Materials of Mass Destruction*. The host role included drafting the principles and guidelines that constitute the *Partnership's* operational framework. Since then, Canada has played a leading role in the *Partnership's* transition from a strong political commitment to a focused program of support, with accompanying legal agreements and project-level funding commitments from both G8 and non-G8 partners.

As chair of the GPSOG in 2002, and subsequently in support of the French chair in 2003, Canada was instrumental in efforts to encourage non-G8 countries

to participate in the *Global Partnership*. The fact that six new members had joined and made significant financial commitments by mid-2003 was an important endorsement of the *Partnership's* principles, guidelines and priorities and confirmed it as a model for international cooperation.

Canada's initial efforts focused on two areas: establishing the necessary international legal frameworks and implementation arrangements to underpin the project's rollout in Russia; and creating the domestic support structure and monitoring framework needed to contribute in an effective and accountable manner to the four priority areas identified by the G8.