

Canada continues to believe that there is value in convening a high-level meeting of representatives from states around the globe to focus on proliferation issues. By attempting to bridge the North-South, supplier-recipient divide, such a meeting would complement the work of other, primarily supplier-based fora such as the G7 and the Permanent Five. It also has the potential to encourage all countries to work together towards objectives that are in the interests of the entire international community. Further to its February call for a World Summit on proliferation, Canada is consulting with a regionally-representative group of countries on ways to jointly promote non-proliferation objectives, including the possibility of a high-level meeting.

Canada also continues to pursue the points of its action plan on non-proliferation, described in *Disarmament Bulletin 16*. As you will read in this *Bulletin*,

we are seeking to strengthen the BTWC at its Third Review Conference and, in collaboration with others, are drafting a UN resolution to establish a global arms trade register. In addition, we are working to conclude a global chemical weapons convention, to strengthen the nuclear non-proliferation regime and to improve the Missile Technology Control Regime.

Canada will actively follow-up on the declarations made in the OAS, the CSCE, the G7 and other fora to ensure that proliferation issues receive continuing, priority attention and that political commitments are translated into something tangible. A sustained combination of political will and serious action should make the secretive build-up of an Iraqi-style arsenal — with its destabilizing effects on regional and international security — much less likely in future. ■

Canada Welcomes Accessions to NPT

The nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) has been bolstered and brought closer to the goal of universal adherence over recent months with the accession, or decision to accede, by several states.

Zambia, Tanzania and South Africa deposited their instruments of accession to the Treaty in the May-July period. Secretary of State for External Affairs Barbara McDougall welcomed all three accessions and expressed Canada's confidence that the states in the southern African region that remain outside the NPT — Angola, Namibia and Zimbabwe — will also join at an early date.

Canada was equally pleased by the announcements of France and China, two nuclear-weapon states, of their intentions to accede to the NPT. The French "decision in principle" to join the Treaty was announced on June 3 by President Mitterrand in the context of his "Arms Control and Disarmament Plan." In early August, China indicated its plans to accede. Neither state has specified the date on which it intends to submit its instrument of accession. Canada looks forward to the early accession of both states, which will bring all acknowledged nuclear-weapon states into the Treaty.

The NPT currently has 145 parties, making it the most widely adhered-to arms control treaty. As a staunch supporter of the NPT, Canada has vigorously encouraged all non-parties to accede and will continue such efforts until the goal of universal adherence is achieved. ■

No Summer Issue

Due to resource constraints, there was no Summer 1991 issue of *The Disarmament Bulletin*. With the current issue, the *Bulletin* begins publication on a three (rather than four) times-per-year schedule.

New SSEA



On April 21, the Honourable Barbara McDougall was appointed Secretary of State for External Affairs (SSEA). She replaces the Right Honourable Joe Clark, who had held the post since September 1984. Mr. Clark is now Minister Responsible for Constitutional Affairs and President of the Queen's Privy Council for Canada.

Mrs. McDougall was first elected to Parliament in September 1984 to represent the Toronto riding of St. Paul's. She has served as Minister of State (Finance), Minister of State (Privatization), Minister Responsible for the Status of Women, Minister Responsible for Regulatory Affairs and Minister of Employment and Immigration.

Prior to her election in 1984, Mrs. McDougall had a distinguished career in the financial sector in Vancouver, Edmonton and Toronto.

Mrs. McDougall serves as Chairperson of the Cabinet Committee on Foreign Affairs and Defence Policy. She sits on the Planning and Priorities Committee of Cabinet and is also a member of the Cabinet Committee on Canadian Unity and Constitutional Negotiations.