
program of development cooperation. The International Development Research Centre also makes a notable contribution through its efforts to foster progressive change in developing countries and its focus on sustainable development.

Preventing conflict and peacebuilding are essential goals.

As set out in Chapter VI, Canada's International Assistance programs are dedicated, in significant measure, to forestalling these threats to global security.

The evidence is sadly clear, however, that development assistance is not enough to forestall conflict. Where stability does break down, and armed conflict looms, the international community must use all measures at its disposal, including a graduated set of diplomatic and military steps, broadly conceived and co-operatively executed, to prevent a slide into war.

Preventive diplomacy is most frequently conducted by multilateral institutions such as the UN, but can also be undertaken regionally or bilaterally. Canada, in co-operation with key partners at the UN and elsewhere, will focus on practical measures that hold prospects of success.

Regional security organizations can lead in this field, not least through confidence-building measures. We will be working to expand the capacity of regional organizations, such as the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), the OAS and the OAU, to carry out such preventive diplomacy in the future.

Peacebuilding, the process of reinforcing efforts to build peace through economic and institutional rehabilitation, is critical to sustaining the efforts of local populations and of the international community to resolve conflicts. Canada's international assistance program will foster peacebuilding through technical assistance to strengthen the capacity of societies emerging from conflict to meet the needs and aspirations of their populations. In addition, the commitment to addressing individual security needs through the UN system will be a priority. This was reflected in the Government's approach to the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development in Cairo, and will continue at the World Summit on Social Development in Copenhagen and at the Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing.