

Canada has been and continues to be an enthusiastic supporter of the enlargement process. We welcomed the addition of the Czech Republic, Hungary and Poland in 1999. We have been impressed with the active and constructive participation of all aspirants in the Membership Action Plan. The Plan provides aspirant countries with a framework for strengthening their candidacies for NATO membership. We believe that all nine aspirant nations deserve to have their membership bids assessed fairly and comprehensively, with the understanding that enlargement is in the last analysis a political decision requiring a consensus among all nineteen members.