

- they provide the basis for the re-establishment of confidence in social institutions, such as the judicial system and police, as well as a secure environment for normal peaceful interaction; and
- mine and explosive ordnance removal, in particular, can re-open territory for peaceful use.

Canada's Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Honourable Lloyd Axworthy has identified peacebuilding:

"... as a package of measures to strengthen and solidify peace by building a sustainable infrastructure of human security. Peacebuilding aims to put into place the minimal conditions under which a country can take charge of its destiny, and social, political and economic development become possible."²

Integral to and necessary for the success of peacebuilding activities are practical disarmament, demobilization and reintegration measures.

The following report has been prepared as background for the discussions on the subject of consolidation of peace through practical disarmament measures at the 1997 session of the United Nations Disarmament Commission. It is being made available to assist officials and researchers in their work on this subject, as part of the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade's policy to share the results of independent research undertaken by the Verification Research Program.

The views presented in this report do not necessarily reflect those of the Government of Canada or of the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade.

Department of Foreign Affairs and
International Trade
Ottawa
April 1997

² "Building Peace to Last: Establishing a Canadian Peacebuilding Initiative", Statement 96/46, 30 October 1996.