

**IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS AGAINST THE
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF YUGOSLAVIA**

While most of the sanctions measures imposed against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia were lifted with the implementation of the Dayton Peace Accords, the crisis in Kosovo in the spring of 1998 led to the imposition of new sanctions. The Serb authorities used excessive force against the civilian population of ethnic Albanians in the region, resulting in deaths, destruction of villages and displacement of people, with an outflow of refugees to neighbouring Albania. The international community reacted in two ways to impose sanctions against Yugoslavia.

On March 31, 1998, the United Nations Security Council, acting pursuant to Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter, adopted Resolution 1160 (1998), which called on all states to prevent the export, sale, supply or shipment of arms to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia by their nationals, or from their territories or using their flag vessels or aircraft.

At a meeting of the foreign ministers of the G8 in London on May 9, 1998, Canada, France, Germany, the United Kingdom, the United States and the European Commission agreed to freeze funds held abroad by the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and Serbian governments and stop new investments in Serbia.

To implement sanctions decided by the United Nations Security Council, Canada makes regulations pursuant to the *United Nations Act*, R.S.C. 1985, c.U-2. That Act provides that the Governor in Council may make regulations to comply with the international obligations imposed by resolutions of the Security Council pursuant to Article 41 of the United Nations Charter. The existing regulations (United Nations Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) Regulations, SOR/93-211, as amended) were amended to enact the new sanctions measures mandated by the United Nations in Resolution 1160 (1998). The amendments to the Regulations (now retitled the United Nations Federal Republic of Yugoslavia Regulations) were enacted on July 28, 1998.

To meet Canada's political commitment at the G8 foreign ministers' meeting to impose further sanctions against Yugoslavia, regulations were imposed under relatively new legislation, the *Special Economic Measures Act*, S.C. 1992, c.17. The Act had only been used once before, to meet a call by the Organization of American States for economic sanctions against the regime in Haiti that ousted the government of President Aristide.