

INTRODUCTION

On February 8 and 9, 1993, the Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Barbara McDougall, hosted a seminar in Ottawa on the topic *Canada's Agenda for International Peace and Security*.

In her letter of invitation, the Minister noted the dramatic increase in international peace and security missions throughout the world in the last few years. Recalling Canada's significant contribution to United Nations' and other peacekeeping operations, the Minister declared that Canada has been "well served by our foreign policy framework and by the guidelines developed over many years in which Canada has participated in numerous peacekeeping operations."

The June 1992 report of United Nations Secretary-General Boutros-Ghali, *An Agenda for Peace*, has spurred on the international community to intensify its thinking on the subject of peacekeeping and the evolution of the concept.

Thus Mrs. McDougall thought it both appropriate and timely that a number of interested and expert Canadians be brought together to consider the foreign policy dimension of all aspects of peacekeeping.

FORMAT

Forty-nine participants representing non-governmental organizations, academia, business, labour, government and parliament attended the two-day session.

The seminar consisted of a dinner address by the Minister on February 8, her introductory remarks on February 9, a presentation by the Chief of the Defence Staff, Admiral John R. Anderson, and a number of plenary discussions that were preceded by introductory statements.

This report is a distillation of all the seminar presentations and the attendees' points of view. It sets out the general themes raised and illustrates those themes by commenting on some specific points.

MAIN THEME

If there was one theme that emerged as a result of the discussions it was that there is being forged in Canada a new peacekeeping coalition composed of External Affairs and International Trade Canada, the Department of National Defence, other interested government agencies including the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP), Elections Canada, a wide variety of non-governmental organizations and interested citizens.