

4. a chemical weapons treaty;
5. prevention of an arms race in outer space;
6. confidence building measures leading to a reduction in conventional forces in Europe, and which include specific cultural exchange agreements.

Canada is able to make practical contributions to international security by (a) urging compliance with existing treaties on the grounds that deviation threatens the credibility and viability of further arms control, and, (b) building support for confidence-building measures such as openness, transparency and verification. Due to our extensive work in verification, Canada is recognized at the United Nations as a world leader in the subject, which is now seen to be of critical importance in the negotiation and implementation of arms limitation and disarmament agreements.

The third special session of the United Nations devoted to disarmament (UNSSOD III) will be held in New York for four weeks beginning May 31 and will provide another important opportunity for Canada to contribute to the international advancement of disarmament. In this new atmosphere of a signed INF treaty, the expectations for UNSSOD III are bound to rise, but a limited goal for the session, capable of achievement, would be far better than setting our sights too high. The Third Special Session should pursue those points on which agreement is possible, thus building a cooperative climate emphasizing radical reductions of nuclear weapons, more confidence-building measures, a greater commitment to compliance and the advancement of a verification process to serve specific treaties.

At this moment of a summit breakthrough, we should renew our determination to reach beyond the Summit, each in our own way, to build a better system for true and lasting human security throughout the world. The future of disarmament requires this driving optimism of hope.