

All participating states also committed themselves to negotiating a fissile material cut-off treaty. A mandate for negotiating such a treaty was agreed to at the Conference on Disarmament, and Canada hopes negotiations will begin soon.

Another tool in the fight against the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction is the Chemical Weapons Convention, which entered into force on April 29, 1997. Ninety states have ratified the Convention and the First Conference of States Parties just finished its work in The Hague.

Canada is participating actively in negotiations of a verification regime for the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention. Such a regime would greatly increase the world's confidence in the prohibition of these weapons, promoting security for all.