

Canada, whose spokesman was the late Lester B. Pearson, was responsible for the inclusion in the Treaty of Article 2, which states that the signatories "will contribute toward the further development of peaceful and friendly international relations by strengthening their free institutions, by bringing about a better understanding of the principles upon which these institutions are founded, and by promoting conditions of stability and well-being. They will seek to eliminate conflict in their international economic policies and will encourage economic collaboration between any or all of them". It is this article that provides the framework for the increasingly important "non-military" aspects of the Alliance's activities.

Article 9 of the Treaty provides for the establishment of the organization's governing body, the North Atlantic Council. There are generally two meetings a year of the Council attended by foreign ministers, an autumn meeting held in Brussels and a spring meeting which rotates among the capitals of NATO countries.

*Female members of the Canadian Armed Forces serving with NATO countries contribute to the vigilance and readiness of the Alliance.*

*CAF Photo*