

INTRODUCTION

According to its terms of reference, the Working Group on International Security, seeking to contribute to a better informed public debate in Canada on issues of international peace and security, undertook to:

- (1) examine the impact of current and future developments in the international situation on Canada's security interests and requirements;
- (2) for this purpose assess in particular the evolution of East-West relations, especially relations between the superpowers, the state of the NATO alliance and changes in strategic doctrine or practice, the implications of actual and potential conflicts arising outside the NATO area, the significance of emerging technologies, especially space-based, and the prospects for arms control and disarmament, all with an eye to their relevance for Canada; and
- (3) prepare a report for presentation to the Executive Director of CIIPS.

The group aimed for the broadest possible consensus on these issues, while respecting and reflecting all views being expressed. It divided its report into five substantive parts, dealing with: superpower relations; NATO; North American defence; other regions and issues; and arms control and disarmament. In each area the group had a look at what is going on and what can be expected, asked itself what this means for Canada, and made some suggestions about things Canada could be doing about it.