

MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER



I am delighted to present to Parliament the 2005-2006 Annual Report on Canada's participation in the Global Partnership Against the Spread of Weapons and Materials of Mass Destruction. This G8-led initiative addresses one of the most serious threats we face today—that of terrorists acquiring weapons of mass destruction (WMD) to use in vicious and indiscriminate attacks throughout the world.

It is one of Canada's most important security initiatives.

The Global Partnership is a true multinational partnership. It demonstrates the collective commitment of Canada, the United States, Russia and other members to work on a collaborative basis to reduce the threats posed by the Cold War legacy of WMD stockpiles as well as related materials and expertise. It also constitutes a key element of our cooperation with the U.S., as well as with other countries, in the international efforts to keep weapons and materials of mass destruction beyond the reach of terrorists. Canadian initiatives and support have made a substantial contribution toward some of the most important projects undertaken through the Global Partnership.

I am proud that Canada is delivering tangible results that truly enhance our domestic and international security alike. Our work on the Global Partnership makes a real difference.

In this report, you will read about the contributions made to the construction of a vital chemical weapons destruction facility, the progress in the dismantlement of nuclear submarines, in securing fissile material, in the redirection of former weapons scientists and in the area of biological non-proliferation.

I invite you to review this report and to see what Canada's Global Partnership Program has achieved. This Program is a prime example of a focused and effective foreign policy tool that allows Canada to play a leading role on the international scene. I trust that, like me, you will be very proud of the significant contribution that Canada is making to help build a safer and more secure world.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Peter MacKay". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Peter MacKay,

Minister of Foreign Affairs and Minister of the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency