

b) **Comprehensive Test Ban.** Negotiations have been in progress between Britain, USA and USSR. The technical experts now agree that seismographs can differentiate between earthquakes and underground nuclear explosions except very small ones. It will be much more complicated to construct an international network of stations to detect explosions and report them. The nuclear weapon states want to continue testing because that is how they can develop new nuclear warheads and test existing ones. What is needed is an act of political will to stop improving their arsenals by these underground tests and to stop the technological progress which feeds the arms race. This is another area where Canada plays a key role. Canadian seismologists are respected throughout the world and have taken a major part in dealing with technical issues.

c) **Conventional weapons.** This is the modern description for any weapon that is not classified as a weapon of mass destruction (nuclear, radiological, chemical or biological). All wars since 1945 – there has been a seemingly endless series – have been conventional, and they have taken place outside Europe and North America. Many people believe that a very effective disarmament measure would be to control the transfer of conventional weapons to the developing countries of Africa, Asia and Latin America. Such proposals have run into stiff opposition from some of the developing countries, who regard them as another form of discrimination. But the superpowers are also at fault. Between 1977 and 1979, they tried to negotiate an agreement and they failed, largely because each wanted to be free to continue supplying its friends and allies.

d) **Disarmament and Development.** The Final Document declares that "*the economic and social consequences of the arms race are so detrimental that its continuation is obviously incompatible with the implementation of the new international economic order, based on justice, equity and co-operation*" (para 16). There are pressures from the developing countries on the industrialized world to reduce its military spending, transferring the money saved to development projects. But there are no signs that this will really