

the demobilization of combatants—including reducing the levels of armaments—as a part of the process. These latter arms control measures have good potential for stabilizing post-conflict situations by removing some of the resources necessary for a resurgence of fighting. Controls may have to be put in place to ensure long-term adherence to agreements. Regional organizations can play a role in that regard and it should be noted that, for example, the Organization of American States and the Organization of African Unity have co-operated with the UN in some of these post-conflict peace-building exercises, a process that should be encouraged at all times.

### Conclusion

The five categories of peace operations developed by the United Nations seem to be adequate to cover potential harmonization and synergies with arms control verification and confidence-building measures. Each category will continue to evolve, and their overall flexibility and inter-relationship will be an asset. Priority should be afforded to preventive diplomacy and peace-making in order to avert and lower the level of conflict, but it will probably not be possible to suffocate conflict completely in the near term. Therefore, it will be necessary to rely on other types of peace operations processes as well.

Peacekeeping and post-conflict peace-building will remain important tools of the international community. Peacekeeping will continue to develop as a multifaceted exercise, and its use in the practical application of voluntary arms control will grow. Peace enforcement operations will be much more problematic and will require a great deal of thought and marshalling of political will by the mandating authority, usually the UN Security Council. This process will be used sparingly but, when it is, participating states must clearly understand that it is not peacekeeping and there are potential consequences, including the acceptance of choosing sides and the possible casualties that might result. The separate considerations related to

using peace enforcement in support of arms control and disarmament per se are covered in Chapter VII of this study.

Peace operations will continue to expand beyond the ambit of the UN, particularly as regional organizations come into their own in the development of security arrangements. Nevertheless, the Security Council will maintain an oversight role to try and ensure some consistency in the application of these processes, particularly those involving the use of force.

