

# BUILDING A MORE SECURE WORLD

## THE GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP

Canada's major security undertaking with Russia is our involvement in the Global Partnership Against the Spread of Weapons and Materials of Mass Destruction, administered by Foreign Affairs. This program was designed by the G8 in 2002 in response to the serious threat posed by the vast quantities (40,000 tonnes) of nuclear, radiological and chemical weapons in the former Soviet stockpile, and the threats these would represent in the hands of terrorists. Canada is a leading architect and supporter of the Global Partnership, with a commitment of \$1 billion over 10 years.

mirrored at the international level. The international community is still not sufficiently well organized to execute complex peacebuilding operations, nor is there a consensus on when the UN must intervene to deal with an international crisis. The UN's recent reports conclude that post-conflict operations have too often been characterized by ill-coordinated and overlapping bilateral and UN programs, preventing the best use of scarce resources. But we also need agreement on new rules so that the international community can intervene more swiftly and effectively to protect civilians against massive harm—including genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity—when states fail to carry out their fundamental responsibility to protect their own people.

### Specific Initiatives

- Foreign Affairs will promote action on the Responsibility to Protect at the UN and it will continue to pursue its efforts to gain wide acceptance of this concept. In particular, it will work for a UN Security Council resolution adopting guidelines governing the use of force in internal conflicts, as recommended in *The Responsibility to Protect* report; and
- to more rapidly and effectively build peace in conflict and post-conflict situations, Foreign Affairs will cooperate with like-minded countries to support the creation of a civilian Peacebuilding Commission within the UN, in line with the UN High Level Panel's recent recommendations. Reporting to the UN Security Council, this Commission would lead in the re-establishment of order and governance in post-conflict and failed states, allowing the UN to rapidly draw together

relevant expertise from across the UN system. A peacebuilding support office within the UN Secretariat could provide capacity for faster and more effective peacebuilding operations.

Canada retains a strong interest to work with the UN wherever possible in responding to international crises. But while the UN will continue to have an essential role in providing legitimacy to international operations, the most practical solution in some cases will involve regional players. Regional organizations and countries have the greatest stake in the stability of their neighbourhoods, and therefore often have a greater incentive to commit the resources needed for stabilization and peacebuilding. As the UN's recent reports recommend, the UN should establish new framework agreements with regional organizations to facilitate their ability to mount peace support operations. An excellent model in this respect is NATO, given its close cooperation with the UN in the Balkans and Afghanistan.

### Specific Initiative

- Foreign Affairs will work with regional organizations to assist failed and fragile states. This includes NATO's transformation to meet new threats, given its proven capacity to combat terrorism and help stabilize countries and regions at risk. Where NATO is not engaged, we will cooperate with other regional players, notably the European Union, the African Union and the Organization of American States, in the areas of conflict resolution, and capacity building for peacekeeping and peacebuilding.