

- (iii) **These lists could form a blueprint for peacekeeping operations, and could be varied to suit individual circumstances.** It is important to identify separately the humanitarian support tasks and to make it clear that they are secondary tasks only to be performed if requested by the humanitarian coordinator, or at least in agreement with him or her. Observing this practice should remove the perception of the military invading humanitarian territory or 'space' uninvited.<sup>2</sup>
- (iv) **A delicate balance has to be struck between cooperation and too close identification, but these two objectives are not necessarily incompatible.** In states with experience of peacekeeping, much thought is going into the improvement of Civil-Military Cooperation (CIMIC) mechanisms in the field.<sup>3</sup> A great deal can be achieved by discreet communication and using liaison officers from both sides to build up an awareness and understanding of each other's objectives and methods.<sup>4</sup> It is essential that there are regular exchanges of information through meetings, briefings, e-mails and even social exchanges – the latter useful as a means of breaking down barriers. If each side is clear about the other's role and objectives, the chances of success are much greater.