

international counter-terrorism conventions; promoting mutual legal assistance and extradition; strengthening the sharing of intelligence on terrorism; urging all states not to make concessions to hostage takers; taking steps to deny terrorists sanctuary and support; and strengthening protection of aviation, maritime and other transportation systems.

These Guidelines for Action and the subsequent 25 specific recommendations have been adopted or supported by the UN, the Organization of American States and other regional organizations. Specific initiatives receiving broad international support include the Canadian-chaired UN drafting committee on the suppression of terrorist bombings.

In line with recent recommendations from various international agreements, Canada is taking a number of domestic actions. These include fully using recently enacted immigration procedures directed against terrorists; assessing improvements to travel and immigration documentation; examining measures to ensure no funding is provided to terrorists; establishing new avenues of information sharing; and pursuing international legal co-operation.

Arms control

The proliferation of weapons of mass destruction is a serious threat to international peace and security. Stemming the spread of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons is one of the most important challenges facing the world. Canada is working to ensure continued progress in this area.

The Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons is the cornerstone of efforts to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons and to pursue nuclear disarmament; strengthening it and ensuring that all parties adhere to it is key to global security. At the first preparatory meeting for the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty Review Conference, which took place April 7-17, 1997, Canada helped lay the foundation for future work to strengthen the treaty by providing for a substantive review as called for in the Principles and Objectives for Nuclear Non-proliferation and Disarmament, and fulfilling Canada's commitment to permanency with accountability.

The Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty was called for by the treaty parties in 1995. Canada welcomes the conclusion of this treaty which will end forever nuclear testing and make a major contribution to the attainment of Canada's non-proliferation test and disarmament objects. Canada urges all states to ratify the treaty as soon as possible.