

intractable issues involved in creating conditions for stable, enduring international peace and security. The Canadian government reaffirms its determination to do just that.

In this forum, the seriousness of Canada's commitment to the pursuit of realizable arms control and disarmament measures is well known. Canada's long-standing approach to arms control and disarmament, sometimes criticized as idealistic, is not starry-eyed but directed to the pursuit of practical and achievable goals. We see arms control not as separate from, but intimately bound up with the legitimate concern of all states for their national security. The essence of our approach has been expressed succinctly by Prime Minister Brian Mulroney in the following words, "The world at large should recognize that arms control is a component of, not a substitute for, a healthy national security policy. A wise and correct approach to security cannot ignore the virtues of arms control, just as arms control cannot ignore the requirements of national security. The search for either at the expense of the other is fruitless. And the search for both is imperative."

The Canadian government has set for itself six arms control priority objectives. These have been publicly stated by Canada's Prime Minister and were spelled out by our Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Joe Clark, in the Canadian parliament on January 23. These six priority objectives are:

- 1) negotiated radical reductions in nuclear forces and the enhancement of strategic stability;
- 2) maintenance and strengthening of the nuclear non-proliferation regime;
- 3) negotiation of a global chemical weapons ban;
- 4) support for a comprehensive test ban treaty;
- 5) prevention of an arms race in outer space; and
- 6) the building of confidence sufficient to facilitate the reduction of military forces in Europe and elsewhere.

We intend to pursue these objectives actively and by all means at our disposal. We will be pressing our views and policy objectives in bilateral talks with our allies, with governments of the socialist bloc and with the Peoples Republic of China and with the governments of neutral and non-aligned countries. We will play an active and constructive role in various multilateral fora, here in the Conference on Disarmament, in the First Committee of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA), at the UN Disarmament Commission, in the Mutual Balanced Force Reductions talks in Vienna and at the Stockholm Conference and other Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe meetings which address broad security-related issues.

We see the Conference on Disarmament, however, as pre-eminent among the multilateral fora dealing with arms control and disarmament. A heavy responsibility weighs on its 40 members. We are, in a very