



Canadians serving with the (now completed) UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia.

the development of common logistics, standby forces or peacekeeping training could be reviewed at the regional level.

Non-proliferation

As home to three nuclear-weapon states (the US, Russia and China), two major nuclear concerns (the Korean Peninsula and South Asia) and several of the world's leading importers and exporters of conventional arms, Asia Pacific demonstrates vividly the impossibility of severing the connection between the "local" and the "global" as far as weapons proliferation is concerned. To be viable, region-specific proposals aimed at preventing proliferation have to be placed within a framework that involves strong international non-proliferation instruments as well as general efforts to create a benign regional security environment.

Asia Pacific states have already taken steps towards this last. The ASEAN countries have long been active in the development of a political framework within which conflict would come to be regarded as impossible. Starting with the 1976 Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia, through proposals for a Zone of Peace, Freedom and Neutrality (ZOPFAN) and a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region, to the creation of the ASEAN Regional Forum, the ASEAN nations have laid a firm foundation for

cooperation and dialogue on security issues.

In 1985, countries of the South Pacific established a nuclear-weapon-free zone in which the stationing, manufacture and testing of nuclear explosive devices and the dumping of nuclear waste is prohibited.

In South Asia, India and Pakistan have developed and implemented a number of bilateral confidence-building measures (CBMs), including:

- an agreement to give prior notification of troop movements within a certain distance of the border;
- a commitment not to attack each other's nuclear facilities;
- an agreement for regular contact by regional military commanders along the border; and
- a "hot line" agreement.

Prior to the recent difficulty over North Korea's adherence to the NPT, the two Koreas were slowly beginning to develop a dialogue that dealt with implementation of their December 1991 accord on a nuclear-weapon-free peninsula, as well as with broader issues.

Canada has been a supporter of Asia Pacific confidence-building efforts and is ready to provide assistance wherever Canadian experience might be relevant. Con-

fidence-building measures need not always take the form of steps like the notification of troop movements. The negotiation of political declarations and a regular process of dialogue are equally important in generating the political will required to reduce tensions. Within the ASEAN Regional Forum, specific military CBMs could be considered if participating states believe such measures would assist in moving cooperation beyond the declaratory stage.

At the global level, countries participating in the ARF may wish to consider steps they could take jointly to signal to other regions their commitment to non-proliferation. At the ASEAN SOM, Canada will be suggesting diplomatic efforts on behalf of:

- securing universal adherence to and the indefinite extension of the NPT in 1995;
- the creation of an effective verification regime for the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention (BTWC);
- rapid implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC);
- adherence to the guidelines of the Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR); and
- submission of data to the UN Register of Conventional Arms.

Canada is also proposing that Asia Pacific states consider taking regional or sub-regional steps to build upon global non-proliferation instruments. These might include such things as special verification provisions. For example, countries could agree to permit a larger number of inspections by other ARF participants, and those inspections might be more intrusive than usual. In addition, participants might wish to enhance transparency or information ex-

Successful non-proliferation strategies require both global and regional measures.

change mechanisms with respect to facilities, goods and services covered under the international agreements.

In terms of the UN Arms Register, Asia Pacific countries might want to agree to submit data on the production of conventional weapons and overall military holdings. In the ballistic missile area, countries could consider negotiating a regional or sub-regional agreement not to be the first to acquire or deploy ballistic missiles.