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# The Disarmament Bulletin

Dept. of External Affairs  
A review of Canada's arms control and disarmament activities  
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## Leaders Resolve to Tackle Proliferation

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### Canada's call for action echoes through high-level meetings

Spurred by the Gulf War, political leaders around the world have taken up the call sounded by Canada in February for stronger efforts to stop the proliferation of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons, missiles and excessive build-ups of conventional arms. The spring and summer saw a series of high-level declarations condemning proliferation and committing governments to action.

At the Organization of American States (OAS) General Assembly held from June 3 to 8 in Santiago, Chile, OAS foreign ministers — Canada's Barbara McDougall among them — recognized the perils of proliferation and agreed to begin consultations on hemispheric security, including proliferation issues. Member States subsequently gave unanimous approval to a resolution proposed by Canada that condemned proliferation and initiated OAS study of the subject, including the possibility of exchanging information about arms transfer policies and of consulting about excessive arms build-ups.

In Copenhagen on June 6 and 7, Mrs. McDougall and her NATO counterparts discussed the dangers to international security posed by proliferation and renewed their commitment to early progress in international fora dealing with proliferation issues.

CSCE foreign ministers meeting in Berlin on June 19 and 20 agreed, at Canada's encouragement, that halting the spread of weapons of mass destruction and promoting restraint and transparency in conventional arms



At the G7 London summit: SSEA Barbara McDougall, Prime Minister Brian Mulroney, USA President George Bush, Netherlands Foreign Minister Hans van den Broek and Netherlands Prime Minister Ruud Lubbers.

Bill McCarthy, PMO

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