

The Government has identified six specific objectives on the arms control and disarmament agenda:

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

How does Canada advance these objectives?

Canada warmly welcomed the announcement in January, 1985 made by the United States and the Soviet Union on the resumption of bilateral talks. In this past year we have used all channels open to us to actively encourage, support and facilitate the conduct of serious and constructive negotiations.

Canada has had an ongoing series of consultations and discussions with the United States -- bilaterally and along with our allies in NATO -- on the progress of these negotiations.

Prime Minister Mulroney and President Reagan have had several meetings and conversations in which Canada's concerns and interest in the negotiations have been stressed.

Within NATO, we have encouraged regular, detailed discussions of the Geneva talks and their implications for Alliance policies.

As well, Canada has engaged in an active dialogue with the Soviet Union. The Prime Minister has written to General Secretary Gorbachev outlining Canada's views and priorities on arms control questions and Canada has conducted bilateral arms control and disarmament discussions with Soviet officials in Ottawa and in Moscow. Similar consultations have already occurred and others are being planned with selected East European countries.

Canada has practical contributions to make to the bilateral and multilateral arms control process. The Government's activity will be focussed in three directions: