

Ambasssador Roche spoke of the Disarmament/Development relationship as representing the intersection of the two major themes in global relations -- East-West tensions and the North-South dialogue. He asked participants to consider what was meant by "security" in an interdependent world and suggested that this interdependence represented both the common ground and the common vulnerability of the world's inhabitants. He also asked participants to address the question of the impact of military spending on the world's economy, both in developed and developing countries, and suggested that we try to determine why governments spend to the extent they do on defence.

He suggested that, whilst the full implications of the disarmament/development relationship were still being elaborated, it was not too early to suggest that the arms race and development were in a competitive relationship. The question remained: how best to manage this relationship in the triangular context, established in the Thorssen Report, of disarmament, development and security.

Ambassador Roche noted that the discussion of the disarmament/development relationship tended to bring to the forefront most issues of global concern today. The object of the Consultative Group meeting was to attempt to address some of the major themes:

- the arms race, conventional and nuclear;
- development;
- Canada's role in both disarmament and development;
- Canada's contribution to international security.

The principal result of the U.N. conference would be to raise global consciousness on both questions of the Disarmament/Development relationship and on the new, broad definition of security -- how international security might be strengthened through reducing arms and through accelerating development.

It should be noted that the attached reports reflect only the main themes/views to emerge from participants during the discussions. They do not attempt to cover each and every issue raised, nor do they reflect the full and active exchange of views which took place between Ambassador Roche and participants -- particularly in regard to explaining and clarifying various criticisms of Canadian Government policy on these issues.