

4. Restrictions to the arms trade must not be seen as a discriminatory strategy perpetrated by the North against the countries in the South. We must all build down.

5. When is a weapon defensive or offensive? What makes a weapon stabilizing or destabilizing? Who decides? Who interprets?

6. The distinction between military and non-military goods is becoming increasingly blurred. Often they are indistinguishable. Chemicals used in plastics and fertilizers can be chemicals used in weapons. How can restraint in the arms trade be secured without also restricting trade generally?

Those difficulties demand prudence and caution. But they do not remove the requirement to act. In order to give political energy to negotiations now underway and to launch new initiatives where needed, the Prime Minister has proposed a World Summit on the Instruments of War and Weapons of Mass Destruction to be held under UN auspices... We will pursue this with

vigour in the weeks and months ahead. We will also be looking at ways to prevent the use of environmental spoilage as a weapon of war as practiced by Saddam Hussein in his deliberate pollution of the Gulf.

As part of our initiative to address the arms control problems thrown into relief by the Gulf War, I am announcing today that Canada will take the following additional steps.

First, we will propose that the countries who are signatory to the Conventional Forces Agreement in Europe undertake not to export arms affected by that agreement to countries outside Europe. The residue from the Cold War in Europe should not become the raw material for wars elsewhere.

Second, Canada will move immediately to increase the number of precursors for chemical weapons on our Export Control List from 14 to 50, in order to restrict the possibility of Canada

being used as a source or conduit for components of chemical arms.

And lastly, I am releasing today, for the first time ever, a *Report on the Export of Military Goods from Canada...* That report is intended to demonstrate Canada's strong commitment to greater transparency in the arms trade, a

Difficulties in controlling the arms trade do not remove the requirement to act.

transparency that is needed so the world knows what the traffic in arms is.

These initiatives will not, in and of themselves, address the arms trade challenge. Canada's share of the world arms trade is minuscule. Action — concerted action — is required by others, especially those whose policies and practices are less restrictive than our own. But they contribute — and I believe they indicate our firm commitment to moving from hope to action... ■

Canada Releases Annual Report on Military Exports

Following up on a commitment made by Secretary of State for External Affairs Joe Clark in his address to the UN General Assembly on September 26, 1990, Canada released in March its first *Annual Report on the Export of Military Goods from Canada*.

The report lists in tabular form the dollar value of Canadian military exports according to country of destination and Export Control List (ECL) item number. A summary table showing the breakdown of exports to "NATO (except USA)," "Other OECD" and "Others" is also included.

Canada closely controls the export of military goods and technology to countries that pose a threat to Canada or its allies, countries involved in or under imminent threat of hostilities, countries under UN Security Council sanctions, and countries with a persistent record of serious human rights violations, unless it can be demonstrated that

there is no reasonable risk that the goods might be used against the civilian population.

Military goods are defined in Group 2 (Munitions) of Canada's ECL as goods "specifically designed or adapted for military use." The goods controlled on the ECL are similar to those on the International Munitions List used by the Coordinating Committee for Multilateral Strategic Export Controls (COCOM).

The report was tabled in Parliament on March 6 by Mr. Clark and presented to the UN Secretary-General by Ambassador Yves Fortier. It will be circulated as an official document to all UN member states under UNGA 46 item 60(b) — General and Complete Disarmament, International Arms Transfers.

Canada's intention in releasing the report is to promote greater transparency in international conventional arms transfers by making reliable information

about arms exports widely available. As Mr. Clark told the General Assembly in September, "Canada believes that it is important to make arms transfers and procurement as transparent as is prudent and practical. Transparency builds confidence and is a recognition of the obligation we all have to the common interest." Canada hopes that as a result of its initiative, other countries will soon issue similar reports.

Canada is represented on the UN Group of Governmental Experts currently carrying out a study of ways and means of promoting transparency in international arms transfers. We look forward to examining the Group's report, which will be submitted to the General Assembly in the fall of 1991.

Copies of Canada's first *Annual Report* can be obtained free of charge by writing to the Export Controls Division, EAITC, 125 Sussex Drive, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0G2. ■