



Practical Steps for  
Summary Report

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27 March 1999

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**PRACTICAL STEPS FOR  
CANADIAN POLICY DEVELOPMENT ON  
NUCLEAR WEAPONS ISSUES  
SUMMARY REPORT**

Canadian Network to Abolish Nuclear Weapons  
Debbie Grisdale, Physicians for Global Survival

March 27, 1999

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In addition, the seminar raised issues such as the role and nature of civil society, sanctions as an enforcement mechanism to promote nuclear disarmament, the relationship between the Arctic, submarines and nuclear issues, and the discussion of foreign policy during federal election campaigns.

Four working groups on the NPT (Tariq Rauf, Chair), NATO's Strategic Concept review (André Ouellette, Chair), de-alerting and no first use (Ergie Ragher, Chair), and NATO and civil society (Mary Wynne Ashford, Chair) prepared recommendations for Canadian foreign policy in these areas.

Policy recommendations:

Regarding the NPT, Canada should (among other recommendations):

- support the creation of a body of international law on nuclear disarmament and strengthen existing bodies in this field;
- encourage nuclear weapon states to talk "nuclear disarmament,"
- present a visible initiative on nuclear non-proliferation, based on the survey result that 92% of Canadians would support such an initiative;
- encourage an enhanced NGO access to the NPT Review Conference in 2000 and give an NGO delegation a seat at the table.

Regarding NATO's Strategic Concept review, Canada should:

- convene an expert group to investigate options for deactivation with the objective of presenting recommendations to the UN;
- present Canadian territory as a nuclear weapons-free zone;
- commission a study on no first use;

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