

G-8 Summit meeting in July. While the priorities identified by the Prime Minister prior to September 11 will remain, other pressing issues will be added and may dominate the agenda at Kananaskis, including:

- counter-terrorism,
- peace and stability in Central Asia, and
- management of the global economy.

Officials welcomed reflections on long term objectives for Canada's foreign policy and on lessons learned from the post September 11 crisis. How much has the world changed? How to turn the negative aspects of the attacks into positive outcomes?

2. Historical Perspective

Attention was drawn to how wrong political scientists and experts have been for the past 10 years about current analysis at any moment and even more about predicting trends. For example, neo-Wilsonianism of the early 1990's has given way to "realism" of the early 21st century. Optimism accompanying the end of the Cold War largely dissipated as conflicts erupted and the global economy slowed down. The hopes for a united Europe from West to East were dashed with the beginning of wars in the former Yugoslavia. The rising Asian tigers were hit by a far-reaching economic crisis. The health of the U.S. economy seemed threatened by a large debt and increasing competitiveness from Japan.

The history of Canada-U.S. relations was also briefly addressed. The tension between the American tendency to "go it alone" and Canada's concern about being excluded from American decisions and actions continues to play out today as much as in the past (i.e., during the Second World War, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War).

Long term, big picture understanding of the September 11 events was encouraged. A point was made that while long-standing historical grievances do not justify the terrorist acts, they must be carefully considered. In order to reduce such threats in a systemic manner, deep ideological, material, religious and other divisions between the "West" and the rest of the world must be addressed.

3. Security Implications and Immediate Policy Challenges for Canada

One participant suggested it is necessary to deconstruct post September 11 policy interests and the current policy environment. September 11th is about security concerns. The appropriate response for Canada is to better integrate our own security information (CSIS, RCMP, Citizenship and Immigration, Refugee process) and then integrate that information with U.S. agencies (the FBI, CIA, Naturalization and Citizenship) to provide greater security for ourselves, for the Americans and for others and a high level of confidence that the right information exists and that it is being shared. This does not mean harmonisation. We need to keep our immigration, refugee and other policies able to respond to our needs and interests while securing more perfect