

BUILDING A MORE SECURE WORLD

military equipment for the African Union troops. Canada is examining the scope for a bigger role in the Darfur crisis. This could include acting as a catalyst for international action by focusing effort and resources on some critical areas of diplomatic activity to reinvigorate the peace process; reinforcing the African Union mission in Sudan in critical areas such as helicopter support and technical advice; advancing the protection of civilians through additional commitments for humanitarian, peacebuilding and reconstruction needs; and supporting the implementation of the UN Security Council resolution on the International Criminal Court.

Specific Initiatives

- to better meet the need of responding quickly to international crises, the Government will establish an ongoing Stabilization and Reconstruction Task Force (START) in Foreign Affairs, to gauge the extent of crises and consolidate the Government's response. START will draw together expertise

across government and will work closely with counterpart task forces now being formed by partner countries such as the United States; and

- as set out in its 2005 Budget, the Government is committing \$100 million annually over five years to a Global Peace and Security Fund (GPSF) under the authority of the Minister of Foreign Affairs. The Fund will support urgent contributions to crisis response operations, as well as measures to ensure lasting human security such as the eradication of anti-personnel mines.

Canadian diplomacy, backed by new capacities and investments in defence, development and trade, will enable Canada to make a difference in regions and on issues of concern. Our new, integrated approach will bring together all of our instruments to produce results and to make a difference.

The changes we are making at home to better enable us to deal with failed and fragile states need to be

STABILIZATION AND RECONSTRUCTION TASK FORCE (START)

Why do we need it?

- As many as 50 states are dangerously weak or failing, leading to more frequent humanitarian disasters. We must be better equipped to address crises.
- Complex emergencies of the recent past (e.g. in Afghanistan, Haiti, the Balkans) have taught us that not only must civilian and military instruments work closely together but also that we must have a more effective working relationship among our civilian instruments. We need to move much more rapidly to put in place a suite of actions (including policing, de-mining, re-establishment of courts) to protect people comprehensively and enable them to rebuild their lives quickly.

What would it achieve?

- START will result in better planning and preparation across government for crises in fragile and failing states.
- It will promote faster, more efficient coordination and action of Canada's response to support stabilization and reconstruction.
- It will provide more effective support for the UN and other international organizations in addressing crises.

How will it work?

- Located in Foreign Affairs, with staff drawn from Foreign Affairs and other departments whose expertise is needed to ensure coherent government responses to international crises, START will conduct planning and develop rapid and coordinated government responses to crises as they occur.