

credible in security terms and sufficient funds to make the disarmament and reintegration aspects sustainable in financial terms;

- a **sufficient planning and management** capability to competently design and launch both the overall peace operation and the DDRP component as soon as possible after the parties have achieved a peace agreement;
- a recognition by the peace implementation body and international donors that **substantial completion of the disarmament component of the mandate is fundamental to the longer term stability** of the country/region in question; and
- a **long term commitment by the international community** to post-conflict economic reconstruction and development, to enable the economy in question to absorb reasonable numbers of ex-combatants and ordinary civilians alike.

The following list of essential elements of a successful DDRP derive from the experience reviewed in this paper, the essential conditions for success listed above, and the DDRP generic model outlined in Section IV and Annex A:

- an **integrated technical mission** as early as possible in the negotiation process to fully assess the specific requirements of the DDRP with expertise in all relevant areas (political, military, humanitarian, financial developmental);
- a strong **programme of public information**, including both sensitization and reconciliation aspects, in support of the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration continuum from the outset;
- agreed **procedures for weapons collection and destruction** during the process of assembling and demobilizing former combatants, as well as mechanisms for implementing disarmament as an ongoing process throughout the peacebuilding continuum;
- carefully planned **incentive programmes** to sustain and enhance the disarmament process with appropriate community support and input, that are implemented in the context of a **larger weapons management programme** including cooperation with neighbouring countries on customs and other procedures;