

their Moscow summit meeting in September 1998, when they agreed to establish a joint USA-Russia Missile Early Warning Centre and an international system to provide notification of intended missile launches.

4. Canada and multilateral missile early warning and surveillance:

4.1 Canada has expressed its support of the principle and its implementation in several ways:

-In its response to the SCFAIT report on nuclear issues, DFAIT reported that "Canadian officials have encouraged the USA to share information with Russia and to multilateralise this initiative;"

-the same report indicated that NORAD could be one vehicle for such a multilateral system;³

-Canada has also proposed that the Geneva-based Conference on Disarmament create a committee on outer space with a mandate to negotiate a convention for the non-weaponization of space.⁴ Canada has also noted that an international system for launch notification could also be addressed by this committee.

Currently these are general ideas which need to be converted into a credible concept and a multilateral issue.

5. The feasibility of a multilateral system:

5.1 The experts point out that the assets needed for such a system (e.g. radars) are already globally distributed (with locations in Canada, UK, Norway, etc.???)

5.2 The missile threat is not relevant only to the United States:

-it is not only an American homeland defence issue,

-neither is it strictly and US-Russian bilateral issue,

-rather, it is central to the stability of the international strategic environment.

5.3. Similarly, the ABM Treaty is central to strategic stability and many experts advised that the time is now ripe to begin discussions related to redesigning the ABM treaty as a multilateral instrument.

5.3 Air surveillance and air defence similarly need multilateral cooperation.

6. Canada already has sufficient standing in ballistic missile and space issues to have a **political mandate** to offer international leadership or encouragement:

6.1 Through NORAD Canada is already involved in related bilateral US-Russian security issues.

6.2 As already noted, Canada has an articulated policy in support of multilateralising missile early warning and surveillance.

6.3 Canada has also proposed measures related to the "non-weaponization" of space at the CD.

6.4 The Department of National Defence reports ongoing "research and consultation with the

³ Recommendation 7, April 1999 "Government Response to the Recommendations of the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and International Trade on Canada's Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Policy."

⁴ "Proposal concerning CD action on outer space," *Conference on Disarmament* (CD/1569, Feb. 4/99).