

## AN INTERNATIONAL RESPONSE

This challenge was addressed under Canadian leadership. At its 2002 Summit in Kananaskis, the G8 launched the Global Partnership Against Weapons and Materials of Mass Destruction. The G8 agreed to contribute up to US\$20 billion over a 10-year period for projects to address non-proliferation, disarmament, counterterrorism and nuclear safety issues. The initial geographic focus was Russia; Ukraine has formally become the second recipient country.

The Global Partnership is a unique international cooperative undertaking that has evolved into a true international partnership. G8 member countries (Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the U.K., the U.S. and the Russian Federation) and the EU have been joined by 13 countries. Over US\$19 billion has been raised,

and activities are under way in all areas. The Partnership was conceived as a 10-year undertaking, and its full life span and fulfillment of commitments by all participants will be essential to achieving its goals and making the world safer for all.

"We must anticipate that terrorists will use weapons of mass destruction if allowed the opportunity. The minimum standard for victory in this war is the prevention of any terrorist cell from obtaining weapons or materials of mass destruction. We must make certain that all sources of WMD are identified and systematically guarded or destroyed."

— *The Lugar Survey on Proliferation Threats and Responses, June 2005*



Lighthouse powered by radioisotope thermoelectric generator (RTG) containing highly radioactive material. Photo Credit: County Governor of Finnmark (Norway)

"In the former Soviet Union there are decaying lighthouses, for example around the coast, where there is material that can be taken by people... which could go into dirty bombs... There have also been reports that the marketplace for that is in the "Stans".

Practical progress has been made in implementing commitments under the Global Partnership, including the physical protection of nuclear materials and facilities. The G8 Gleneagles Statement and the Sea Island G8 Action Plan on Non-Proliferation highlighted the importance of addressing the security of nuclear materials, equipment and technology as well as radioactive sources. A number of countries have now established programs with Russia and Ukraine to upgrade the physical protection of and account for nuclear materials. These include the U.S., the U.K., Germany, Canada, Norway, Sweden and the EU."

— *U.K. House of Commons (Human Rights Annual Report, 2005) (February 15, 2006)*