

IX Criteria for Judging CITA's Effectiveness

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This Chapter sets forth criteria which could be used to judge the effectiveness of a centre such as that proposed in this study.

Since the primary purpose of CITA is to support the UN Secretary-General in conducting his responsibilities in the fields of arms control, confidence building and conflict management, the key criterion for judging CITA's effectiveness must be the degree to which it is contributing to the Secretary-General's effectiveness in those fields. Information is knowledge and knowledge is power; thus, the greater the degree to which CITA provides accurate, timely and useful information and analyses to the Secretary-General, the more effective both CITA and the Secretary-General become. Of particular concern in this regard is the extent to which CITA provides the Secretary-General with early-warning information and analyses, facilitating his ability to anticipate and minimize the consequences of potential conflicts.

A secondary, but major purpose of CITA is to provide support to interested Member States. Therefore, the degree to which these governments utilize the Centre's information, training and analysis capabilities is a key measure of its utility and effectiveness. Comments from the governments will also be a valuable input for judging CITA's overall effectiveness.

CITA would be a unit within a large family of UN-associated bodies. The degree to which the

Centre establishes and maintains effective interfaces with these other bodies will also contribute to an evaluation of its contributions and their effectiveness. The interfaces with DPKO, DPA, DHA and CDA will be particularly important to CITA's successful operation.

The credibility of CITA's information, training and analysis activities and products will help determine its effectiveness. The overall effectiveness of the Centre will also be judged by the number and nature of information requests received, the timeliness of response and the feedback from consumers; the degree to which the Centre's training activities are requested, attended and evaluated; the objectivity and usefulness of CITA's analyses for the Secretary-General; the extent to which the Centre's requirements for information from Member States and other UN bodies are met in a co-operative, timely manner; and the extent and nature of criticisms of CITA and its willingness and ability to respond appropriately and adequately to these critiques.

Ultimately, CITA will be judged on its ability to meet its requirements as set forth in Chapter IV of this study. The degree to which the Centre enhances transparency in arms control verification, confidence-building measures and peace operations will be a key determinant of its overall effectiveness.

