

PREFACE

This volume represents a two-part study by the International Security Research and Outreach Programme (ISROP) within Foreign Affairs Canada in the field of verification and compliance. This study proceeds from the explicit assumption that the verification of and compliance with WMD prohibitions and restrictions matters a great deal to the dynamics of the current international security environment. Indeed, the role this cross-cutting set of issues has come to play in global politics suggests that the accurate and reliable determination of 'who does or does not have weapons of mass destruction capabilities and programmes', and what this means in terms of their international obligations and commitments, will be a subject of great importance and attention for the foreseeable future.

The first part of the study entitled *WMD Verification and Compliance: The State of Play* (October 2004) was completed for ISROP by the Verification Research, Training and Information Centre (VERTIC). The experts engaged in producing this study include Dr. Trevor Findlay with Mr. Erik Asplund, Mr. Andreas Persbo and Ms. Angela Woodward. It was designed to provide a baseline analysis of the principal WMD agreements and the mechanisms by which compliance with their obligations is verified and, when required, suspected and verified non-compliance issues are resolved.

Building on VERTIC's analysis, the second portion of the study entitled *Weapons of Mass Destruction Verification and Compliance: Challenges and Responses* (November 2004), was commissioned from 59 Canadian and international experts by ISROP and addresses two forward looking questions. What are the challenges currently facing our WMD verification and compliance mechanisms? What are some of the practical and potentially achievable responses to these challenges? To develop responses to these questions, ISROP utilized an integrated consultation process which combined an expert questionnaire of 72 questions on general WMD-related verification and compliance issues, nuclear and radiological-, chemical-, and biological weapons verification and compliance issues, and missile verification and compliance issues. Following the questionnaire, a series of 5 conference calls took place and a two-day workshop with approximately 20 Canadian and international government and non-government experts was held. Details on the expert participants in this study and the methodology used to seek their views on these issues are provided in Annex A. A summary of the expert questionnaire results is provided in Annex B.

The findings from both parts of this study were presented to the third meeting of the Weapons of Mass Destruction Commission (WMDC) in Vancouver, Canada in November 2004. For further information on the WMDC or VERTIC, visit <http://www.wmdcommission.org> or <http://www.vertic.org>.

The ISROP would like to thank the many Canadian and international experts who contributed to this study, in particular, those who played a central role in its development, execution and final production: **Dr. Jane Boulden**, Canada Research Chair in International Relations and Security Studies, Royal Military College of Canada; **Dr. Trevor Findlay**, Executive Director, Verification Research, Training and Information Centre; **Ms. Rita Grossman-Vermaas**, Research Associate, International Security Research and Outreach Programme, Non-Proliferation, Arms Control and Disarmament Division, Foreign Affairs Canada; and **Dr. James Keeley**, Associate Professor of Political Science, Centre for Military and Strategic Studies, University of Calgary.

The analysis and recommendations of this two-part study do not necessarily reflect the views of the Government of Canada or Foreign Affairs Canada.