

be adhered to; that is, by ensuring they can be fully verified. In this regard I am pleased to announce the establishment of an arms control and disarmament verification program based in the Department of External Affairs. This follows Prime Minister Trudeau's announcement at the second United Nations Special Session on Disarmament that Canada would substantially increase research in verification and devote more attention to utilizing expertise available inside and outside the government.

An initial amount of \$500 000 has been allocated for this program. This amount will increase to \$1 million by next April. As well, the Arms Control and Disarmament Division of the Department of External Affairs will be allocated additional staff members to develop its verification research capability and to administer this new program.

The expanding Canadian role in verification will build upon the greatly increased attention we have been devoting to verification during the past three years, particularly the promotion of research and development by the private sector, including universities and companies. The focus of the verification program is primarily on technical aspects. Canada has expertise in seismology, remote sensing, toxicology, communication satellites and chemical-weapons detection, destruction and defence. We intend to marshal this expertise more fully as our special contribution in support of the negotiation of agreements on nuclear, chemical and conventional weapons systems.

The program will focus on certain Canadian arms control and disarmament priorities. Projects would include: (i) research studies for application to problems in international negotiations; (ii) specialized technical training programs; (iii) hosting of international symposia of experts on specific subjects; (iv) liaison with national and international bodies outside of Canada engaged in verification issues; and (v) public presentation of verification issues.

In sharing the results of our work with the international community, we hope to contribute to easing the political and security concerns and overcoming the lack of confidence that have kept nations divided.

---

S/C