

With such an arms control and disarmament agenda — START, INF, MBFR [Mutual and Balanced Force Reductions], CD — there are grounds for hope, especially compared to the situation as recently as a year ago when you gathered in Banff.

I should now like to suggest areas in which the Pugwash Movement might expand its efforts in the years ahead. It should come as no surprise that they are areas of traditional importance to Canada.

Consideration  
of all weapons  
systems

One of the great strengths of the Pugwash Movement has been its recognition that the promotion of peace and human survival necessarily involves the consideration of all weapons systems. I'm thinking in particular of the excellent work over the years in the Pugwash Chemical Weapons Seminars. I consider these meetings to be among the major achievements of the first 25 years of the Movement. Ever since the First World War, a ban on chemical weapons has been high on any list of Canadian priorities in arms control and disarmament. In the Committee on Disarmament in Geneva, the same expert who has attended Pugwash Chemical Weapons Seminars has participated with experts from other countries in the Working Group on Chemical Weapons established in 1980. One of the initiatives I announced last week is that henceforth Canadian experts will participate in the Working Group for longer periods as and when warranted. We're convinced that the international negotiating machinery that's in place must be used to achieve a comprehensive ban on chemical weapons. Adequate verification provisions will be among the most important parts of such a treaty. Canada has noted with interest the positive approach to verification procedures in Foreign Minister Gromyko's remarks at UNSSOD II. We would be encouraged if this attitude were reflected in the ongoing negotiations in the CD.

It's my hope that in the next 25 years members of your Movement will give even greater attention to chemical weapons and to other non-nuclear weapons systems. Part of the educational task of the Movement is, I believe, to increase public understanding that to attain peace and human survival one must seek to limit and reduce all weapons systems. It would be a tragedy if a result of the understandable and justifiable public concern about nuclear weapons were to make non-nuclear war more likely. Your business and the business of governments must continue to be the promotion of steps which reduce the likelihood of the use of force — the use of any weapons system.

Verification  
essential

My second suggestion concerns verification. Prime Minister Trudeau said at the second Special Session that "the international community should address itself to verification as one of the most significant factors in disarmament negotiations in the 1980s". He was, of course, addressing primarily governments. But individuals with expertise and non-governmental organizations also have a vital role to play not only in achieving greater public understanding but also in ensuring that all available expertise is applied to this increasingly complex subject. Since the Second World War Canada has attached special importance to the development of international verification mechanisms. In recent years the government has drawn on technical expertise in a

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