

Message from the Minister



I am pleased to present the 2007–2009 Report to Parliament on Canada's participation in the Global Partnership Against the Spread of Weapons and Materials of Mass Destruction. The successful pursuit of Canada's interests around the world—trade, investment, diplomatic and humanitarian—ultimately depends on security. This is why the Government of Canada is going to great lengths to counter threats to our national security and to protect our democratic society against terrorism.

The Global Partnership, a G8-led multilateral initiative, addresses one of the most serious threats we face today—that of weapons of mass destruction and their acquisition by terrorist groups or states of proliferation concern. Over the years, this unique undertaking has evolved

into an extended international partnership, with 13 additional countries joining the G8 in fighting the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and related materials and knowledge. This G8 program is well developed and has achieved many concrete results.

With a \$1 billion commitment to the Global Partnership, Canada is showing leadership in implementing activities to counter the threat of terrorism and weapons of mass destruction. In this report, you will read about Canada's progress during 2007–2009 in destroying chemical weapons, defuelling and dismantling nuclear submarines, enhancing nuclear and radiological security, redirecting former weapons scientists and promoting biological non-proliferation.

I am convinced that you will take pride in Canada's Global Partnership accomplishments. This is an excellent example of a foreign policy that delivers tangible results for Canadians by making our country and the world safer and more secure.

Lawrence Cannon
Minister of Foreign Affairs