

- 2.1 The Committee is convinced of the need to adopt a broader concept of security, encompassing both military and non-military factors. The Committee further recommends that this concept be reflected both in the establishment of a high-level government mechanism, such as a Cabinet committee, and in a restructuring of the relevant Standing Committees of Parliament, in order to ensure that the various elements of security are addressed in an integrated manner.

Response

*The Government agrees on the need to adopt a broader concept of security. In addition to taking into account traditional military threats, security policy must include recognition of threats to stability, democracy and sustainable development as well as the threats posed by such factors as environmental degradation, overpopulation, involuntary population movements and organized international crime.*

*The Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT) will establish a senior-level office for global issues, reporting to an assistant deputy minister. This office will be designed specifically to help bring greater coherence to the Government's capacity for addressing internationally such issues as the global environment, population growth, international migration (including refugee issues), international crime, human rights, democratization, preventive diplomacy and post-conflict peacebuilding.*

*The Government will encourage the relevant Standing Committees of Parliament to address effectively the entire spectrum of security issues.*