

BUILDING A MORE SECURE WORLD

RESPONSIBILITY TO PROTECT

The Responsibility to Protect report of the International Commission on Intervention and State Sovereignty sets out criteria for international intervention in cases where there is large-scale loss of life or ethnic cleansing, or where these conditions are imminent.

The Responsibility to Protect initiative will demand a long-term commitment to advance international rules and the international community's sense of obligation to intervene to prevent widespread atrocities.

situation on the ground and restore security for the local population, and our armed forces must be equipped for the multiple and changing tasks that are essential in this more complex environment. Set out in the accompanying Defence document is a fundamental restructuring of our military operations, including the creation of a unified "Canada Command." The Canadian Forces will also be expanded, to permit Canada to play a significant role in peace support operations.

The stabilization of post-conflict societies needs to be followed by the re-establishment of effective public institutions—law enforcement and judicial systems, education and health care, functioning legislatures and regulatory regimes. This will set the stage for long-term economic development, through international assistance and private sector initiatives.

Canada's experiences in the Balkans, Afghanistan, Haiti and, most recently, in the Indian Ocean tsunami clearly demonstrate the importance of a well-coordinated and rapid response to international crises. Canada's diplomatic, defence and developmental ("3D") efforts in Afghanistan have increased Canada's profile and influence on key international peace and security issues. Our significant support to NATO in its first non-European operation has solidified the Alliance's role as a capable and increasingly outward-looking transatlantic security organization. Our presence has facilitated progress on a number of issues, including the launch of a soon-to-be-completed process of the cantonment of heavy weapons in Afghanistan, the same weapons that were used to destroy much of the country's physical infrastructure in the past. We have also played a significant role in supporting free and fair elections and have been lauded for our approach to Afghanistan's development by supporting Afghan-led national reconstruction programs and priorities. Most

importantly, Canadian efforts—alongside those of our allies—have meaningfully contributed to Afghanistan's transition toward democracy, stability and self-sufficiency. We are building upon this success by assuming a leading role in the Kandahar region through the deployment of a Provincial Reconstruction Team in August 2005.

The speed with which we intervene, together with the right mix of assistance, can be crucial in saving lives in a crisis situation. Darfur is the latest example of a crisis that requires concerted international action. The security and human rights situation in Darfur remains severe, with serious human rights violations continuing to be committed by government forces, militias and rebel groups. The African Union-led peace talks among the parties to the conflict have been stalled since adjourning on December 23, 2004. The rebel groups continue to boycott the talks until the security situation improves on the ground. Since January, there has been a lull in military operations. Nonetheless, security remains fragile—a major security incident could easily set back both the security and humanitarian situation.

Canada is adopting a "whole of Sudan" strategy, whereby activities targeted to specific regions, such as Darfur, are developed and implemented within the context of their impact throughout Sudan. Canada's activities in Darfur are based on the 3D approach involving diplomatic activity, development and humanitarian aid, and support for improving the security situation through defence and civilian police involvement. Since 2000, Canada has contributed \$70 million in humanitarian aid and \$20 million in support to the African Union mission in Sudan, which is deployed in Darfur. Our contribution to the African Union includes helicopter support, which is considered the backbone of the operation, critical military and civilian police staff support to assist in planning, and