

And this will place increasing demands on the UN and other organizations and their members to reshape current systems for dealing with hostilities and crises. The United Nations is already under considerable pressure to adjust to these new realities -- and we must work with the UN in making its organization and its systems more responsive.

There was a time when peace operations -- whether they involved peacekeeping or enforcement -- were essentially military operations. But, when you consider expanded activities such as preventive diplomacy, peacemaking and peacebuilding, a much wider range of people, expertise and resources is required.

Consider for a moment the operation in Cambodia: in addition to soldiers, there is a need for legal experts, medical personnel, civil servants and other civilians.

We can expect this demand for civilian agents for peace to grow.

Fortunately, in recent months, some of the traditional inhibitions that used to prevent other countries from participating have disappeared.

An increasing number of permanent members of the UN Security Council, many Third World countries and other countries with constitutional restraints, such as Japan and Germany, are now more willing to play an active peacekeeping role. Russia and Ukraine both have troops that can and are being made available for peacekeeping.

It will be important, as the participant base is broadened, to ensure the highest possible standards and uniformity of purpose.

These recent developments have important implications for the management of Canada's role in international peace and security. While holding firm to our commitment to the UN and other multilateral peace and security efforts, we must ask ourselves some direct questions and consider the available options for how best to adapt our commitment to the new realities.

For example, in light of the increasing number of countries willing and able to provide troops for peace missions, we might consider how to increase and improve our ability to provide planning, training, command and logistical support.

We could place greater emphasis on Canadian participation in the front end of operations -- that is, in the planning phases -- where expertise is needed by international organizations and where our involvement could be as effective but less resource-intensive.