

nuclear weapons states. A full Test Ban may now be essential, and Canada's current step-by-step approach to this goal may no longer be sustainable. Chemical weapons – the “poor man's nuclear bomb” – and ballistic missile technologies are also serious proliferation problems, and they link back to both nuclear threats and conflict resolution, particularly in the Middle East.

### **Five Regions of Conflict**

Movement in Israel itself is going to be key to progress in the Middle East conflict, now into its fifth dangerous decade. Shifting views in countries friendly to Israel, like Canada and particularly the United States, can make some difference, but Canada's capacity to help is severely impeded by the explosively polarized domestic debate.

In Central America, we still have hope for the peace plan for which Canada is one of the official observer nations, in spite of setbacks in Nicaragua and El Salvador and then the Panamanian intervention. In this first issue since Canada moved for full OAS membership, we confronted a murky and painful test, this time resolved in Washington's favour.

In Southern Africa, the efforts of Canada and others over recent years to assist the pressures for fundamental change, have borne some fruit and offer even greater hope. Progress in Namibia is so far inspiring, with beneficial spillovers into South Africa itself where there are the beginnings of real dialogue between a new President and statesmanlike black leaders. Progress in settling the horrific conflicts in Angola and Mozambique must still be strengthened.

In the Somalia, Sudan and Ethiopia, the vicious combination of warfare, famine and dislocation is now threatening to turn a new drought into a gigantic human tragedy, with the world standing by in helpless frustration. Perhaps it is time for the superpowers and the rest of the Security Council to step in and ensure that humanitarian aid can get through, by providing inspectors, observers and if necessary even escorts for these missions.

Finally, in late 1989, the UN majority, with Canada included, found itself in the odious position of having to reiterate support for the credentials of the opposition coalition, in which the Khmer Rouge of Pol Pot is the commanding partner. This abhorrent situation, originally dictated by the Vietnamese invasion and the dynamics of the Cold War,