

## NON-PROLIFERATION, ARMS CONTROL AND DISARMAMENT eDiscussion Questions

### Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada

#### **NACD General:**

1. What are the main NACD threats facing Canada today?
2. In a post-9/11 world, what should be the role of multilateral fora - such as the [Conference on Disarmament in Geneva](#), the [UN Disarmament Commission](#) and the [UN General Assembly's First Committee](#) - in furthering NACD?
3. How can we deal with the threat of former weapons scientists selling their expertise or defecting to states of proliferation concern or terrorists groups?

#### **Nuclear Non-Proliferation:**

1. How can the [Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty \(NPT\)](#) achieve universal acceptance among the states currently outside of the regime (India, Pakistan, Israel, DPRK)?
2. How can Canada best promote a nuclear-weapons-free world?
3. What is the main nuclear threat facing Canada today?

#### **Small Arms and Light Weapons / Landmines**

1. What are the best ways to curb the proliferation of [SALW](#) in conflict-affected areas, considering both the demand and supply aspects of the problem?
2. How can Canada's policy on SALW better address age and gender issues?
3. What can the international community do to more proactively pursue disarmament and non-proliferation of SALW?
4. The role of armed non-state actors has grown over the past two decades. How can disarmament programs best curb the transfer of antipersonnel mines and/or small arms and light weapons to such groups?
5. Is the international community adequately addressing the landmine issue? Should Canada maintain its leadership role in the mine action community?
6. How can the international community better help mine-afflicted countries to meet the needs of surviving landmine victims?

#### **Biological Weapons:**

1. Is the [Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention](#) relevant to the security threats we face today, or has the end of the Cold War rendered it obsolete?
2. Rapid advances in the life sciences and biotech sector are making knowledge of potentially dangerous technologies widely available. This know-how could be used for life-saving scientific research as well as for the creation of powerful biological weapons. Can Canada defend against the malicious use of this information? If so, how?
3. The spread of infectious diseases -- whether they be naturally occurring (i.e. disease outbreak) or man-made (i.e. bioterrorism) -- has global ramifications and poses serious threats to international public health, development, prosperity and security. What further steps can be taken to combat the entire range of biological threats?

#### **Chemical Weapons:**

1. Is the [Chemical Weapons Convention \(CWC\)](#) an effective instrument for preventing terrorists and non-state actors from acquiring or developing chemical weapons?