CANADA AND HEMISPHERIC SECURITY

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THE QUESTIONS

- How does Canada foresee the hemispheric security agenda evolving
- How does Canada intend to respond to those challenges
- How well equipped is Canada to respond to those security challenges
DEFINITIONS

- TRADITIONAL VS NON-TRADITIONAL SECURITY
- THREATS REQUIRING PRIMARILY A MILITARY RESPONSE
- THREATS WHICH ARE BEST MET BY INTELLIGENCE, AID, DIPLOMACY
CHALLENGES

- Canada-US border security including counter-terrorism
- International narcotics, small arms trafficking, international organized crime- police, military and judiciary- RCMP “strategic environmental issue.”
- Arctic and coastal patrol capacity
- NORAD- WHAT IS ITS FUTURE?
- Support for countries challenged by insurgency: eg FARC and paramilitaries
- Peacebuilding: Haiti, Colombia
- Natural disaster response
- Energy security
- POVERTY ALLEVIATION
DND: “Canada has long believed that military capability is only one part of a broader approach to security at home and abroad…”

2002 CIDA mandate “‘to support international efforts to reduce threats to Canadian security’”
Securing an Open Society: Canada’s National Security Policy- 2004

- protecting Canada and the safety and security of Canadians at home and abroad;
- ensuring Canada is not a base for threats to our allies; and
- contributing to international security
2003-Organization of American States in Mexico, produced a Declaration on Security in the Americas, which identified human trafficking, cyber attacks, transnational organized crime, and extreme poverty as security threats, along with terrorism.

DND 2004 Report: there has been little serious allocation of resources by the member states to address those security concerns.
CANADIAN RESPONSE: MILITARY

- Modernization of the Canadian military for the 21st century
- Arctic: 2007 DND announced the intention to acquire 6 – 8 Arctic offshore patrol vessels. But there is an identified need for more icebreakers, submarines, helicopters and fixed wing aircraft suitable for coastal patrol.
- Increase total force to 100,000 by 2028- 70k regular and 30k reserve
- DND) placement of a Canadian Liaison Officer at US Southern Command (USSOUTHCOM )- 2007
BILATERAL/MULTILATERAL RESPONSES

- SPP
- SMART BORDER DECLARATION
- WHTI
- DFAIT: Global Peace and Security Fund – EG.

Colombia: support for justice reform, for victims of violence, enhance capacity for peacebuilding
BILATERAL/MULTILATERAL INITIATIVES

- DFAIT: Stabilization and Reconstruction Task Force (START)- Haiti- collaboration with RCMP, Corrections Canada.

- MINUSTAH – commitment of police for training Haitian police and justice authorities-
INSTITUTIONAL INITIATIVES

- Establishment of Integrated Threat Assessment Centre
- Establishment of Department of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness
- Government Operations Centre
- Canadian Cyber Incident Response Centre
- Cross-Cultural Roundtable on Security – est. 2005 - appears not to have met since March 2008
FOREIGN AID CHALLENGES

- Last year Canada spent just 0.32 per cent of economic output on aid (OECD). Of the 22 OECD countries, Canada was 16th.
- UN Office of Development Assistance target of 0.7 percent of Gross National Income
- Major budget cuts to DFAIT and CIDA - reduces capacity in areas of diplomacy and aid
- Harper government has shifted the focus of foreign aid from Africa to Latin America and overall has reduced the number of priority countries from 25 to 20.
- Ideological selectivity: eg. Exclusion of Nicaragua
- Excessive focus on market expansion as means to poverty alleviation - self-sufficiency
SOME RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE CANADIAN APPROACH

CONTINUED ENHANCEMENT OF CROSS-BORDER COLLABORATION WITH THE US

• MULTILATERAL COLLABORATION WITH UN AND OAS IN THE HEMISPHERE-LEGAL REFORMS, REFUGEE, HUMAN RIGHTS

• ENHANCED BILATERAL COLLABORATION WITH HEMISPHERIC COUNTRIES THE DEFENSE OF WHICH IS IN CANADA’S NATIONAL INTEREST

• REVERSE BUDGET CUTS WHICH HARM EFFORTS IN THE AREAS OF FOREIGN AID AND DIPLOMACY
RECOMMENDATIONS

CANADA NEEDS TO BE MORE AGGRESSIVE IN FLEXIING ITS DIPLOMATIC MUSCLE IN LATIN AMERICA TO DEFUSE REGIONAL TENSIONS- AS FOR INSTANCE IN THE PERUVIAN/FUJIMORA ISSUE EARLIER

• CONTINUED ENHANCEMENT OF MILITARY CAPACITY, ESPECIALLY NAVAL CAPACITY IN THE CARIBBEAN, ARCTIC AND COASTAL WATERS- AND THIS REQUIRES RESOURCE ALLOCATION

• BUILD ON THE BRAZILIAN RELATIONSHIP- BRAZIL HAS EMERGED AS AN INTERNATIONAL PLAYER AND CANADA HAS NOT ALWAYS HANDLED THAT RELATIONSHIP WELL

• APPROVE THE COLOMBIAN FTA- CONCLUSION OF THE AGREEMENT WOULD SEND A CLEAR SIGNAL TO VENEZUELA, REINFORCE URIBE GOVERNMENT AND HIS SUCCESSORS- AND THIS IS WHAT THE US CONGRESS NEEDS TO UNDERSTAND AS WELL