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PEACEKEEPING CENTRE

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Senior Military Officers Prepared for Deployment into United Nations Peace Operation

**Cornwallis, Nova Scotia (March 19, 2009)** – The Pearson Peacekeeping Centre (PPC) concluded its third successful Senior Management Course (SMC) today which has enhanced the skills and knowledge of senior military officers to effectively contribute and lead peace operations.

The SMC focuses on United Nations integrated peace operations and is designed to train military and civilian officers to increase the effectiveness of mission planning and participation. Participants were introduced to the processes of providing strategic and operational advice in the development phase of a contemporary UN peace operation.

Held in Cornwallis, Nova Scotia from March 2 to 19, the SMC provided state-of-the-art training to the 26 senior military officers representing 19 different countries. Participants graduated from the course with a much stronger understanding of how the Security Council works, how peace operations come together, how to identify and solve cultural miscommunications and how to use practical tools to discover and remedy the roots of conflict.

“We are very proud of how successful and well-received our third Senior Management Course has been,” said PPC President Suzanne Monaghan. “Participants were provided with the essential tools and knowledge that will enable them to develop as strong leaders within peace operations. In turn, this will greatly benefit both the communities and regions they serve in.”

The PPC’s SMC course is supported through the Canadian Department of National Defence’s Directorate Military Training Assistance Program (MTAP), a key instrument of defence diplomacy that advances Canada’s contribution to international peace and security.

“Throughout the three weeks that they have been together, the participants have learned just as much from each other as they have from the course,” said Captain John Pulchny of the PPC. “Each of the participants represents a different background and has different experiences. The open communication and integration between all of the participants has helped encourage an incredibly robust learning environment.”

The Pearson Peacekeeping Centre is a Canadian institution dedicated to making international peace operations more effective through research, education, training and capacity building.

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