



But that's where Canadians perceive the strength of this country -- though work needs to be done at home on these issues before we can be a global role model, the report said. Canadians also want a strong military, one that is well-equipped and trained to deal with new kinds of conflicts -- wars within states that have arisen in recent years, Sylvester said. Retired general Romeo Dallaire emerged as embodying the kind of leadership Canadians could play in conflict areas, she added.

The report said Parliament should review and clarify the role of the military which took on a heavy combat role in Afghanistan under the previous Liberal government, and saw that effort extended by the Harper government.

As well, the traditional approach to foreign affairs -- the so-called Three Ds of defence, diplomacy and development -- is outmoded and needs to be revised to be effective in a world full of new religious groups, philanthropists, internal insurgents, NGOs and other players, the report said.

A new approach should be based on the three Cs -- Coherence, Collaboration and Community.

"Canadians realize the world has changed and they want to move forward," she said, adding that the federal government needs to catch up.

In the last three weeks, Prime Minister Stephen Harper met with U.S. President Barack Obama, and has met UN officials in New York --