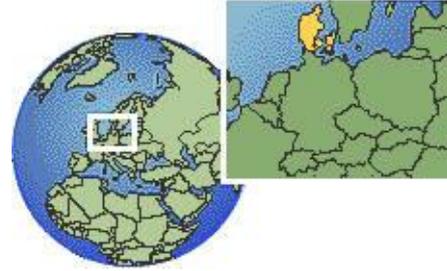


II-D. Profile of Denmark

Version 1 – 7 July 2006

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1. Denmark's Approach to Environmental Security

Recent speeches by the Danish Foreign Affairs Minister and other high-level government officials in various UN forums provide some insight into the Danish Government's approach toward environmental security.

For example, Denmark has officially endorsed the recommendations of the UN High-Level Panel on Threats, Challenges, and Change. At the plenary meeting of the 58th Session of the United Nations General Assembly, the Danish Deputy Permanent Representative Lars Faaborg-Andersen specifically highlighted Denmark's endorsement of the Panel's assertion that security and development are interlinked and that this nexus should underlie the development of a new and expanded collective security doctrine.¹

Denmark's Foreign Minister Per Stig Moller formally acknowledged at the General Debate of the 60th Session of the UN General Assembly in 2005 that Denmark favours a "holistic approach to peace-building" and acknowledges the interdependence of poverty eradication, the prevention of conflict, and the maintenance of peace and security.²

2. How Denmark integrates Environmental Security Concerns into Foreign Policy

In the 2004 foreign policy report entitled "*A Changing World*", the Danish Ministry for Foreign Affairs outlines the Government's new priorities in Denmark's foreign policy. As regards the link between foreign policy and broader security threats, the Danish Government recognises first that a "modern and effective foreign policy requires that the many facets of foreign policy, such as European development, security, defence and trade policies, are integrated in a mutually reinforcing manner".

Second, the Government affirms that the new challenges will place even greater pressures on strong international cooperation, and in this regard, the EU, NATO, and the UN remain the most important organisations for ensuring security and stability.

Third, the Danish Ministry for Foreign Affairs asserts that it will continue to focus on increasing international security and stability as well as ensuring greater economic progress and prosperity while promoting respect for democracy and human rights.³

It is important to note that the current government has recently dismantled the Environment, Peace, and Stability Fund, which in 2001 deployed 0.18% of GNI for environmental activities in Central and Eastern Europe, developing countries, and the

¹ "'Widely Divergent' Views Emerge During General Assembly's Debate on Security Council". 17 Oct 2003. [United Nations](http://www.un.org/News/Press/docs/2003/ga10175.doc.htm). 14 Jun 2006.

<http://www.un.org/News/Press/docs/2003/ga10175.doc.htm>

² Moller, Per Stig. "Statement of Denmark". *UN General Assembly: 60th Session*. 20 Sep 2005. [United Nations](http://www.un.org/webcast/ga/60). 14 Jun 2006. <http://www.un.org/webcast/ga/60>

³ "A Changing World: The Government's Vision for New Priorities in Denmark's Foreign Policy". *Royal Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs*. Jun 2003. [Royal Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs](http://www.um.dk). 14 Jun 2006. <http://www.um.dk>

Arctic regions. The Fund was to have been increased by 0.5% of FNI by 2005, representing an additional contribution on top of the 1% of GNI already committed for development cooperation.⁴

3. How Denmark Mainstreams Conflict and Livelihood Protection into Development Cooperation

The June 2003 policy report, entitled “*A World of Difference*”, set out the five thematic priorities for Danish development cooperation: social and economic development; human rights, democratisation and good governance; stability, security and the fight against terrorism; refugees, humanitarian assistance and regions of origin; and the environment. These priorities will continue to be the primary focus of Danish development cooperation in the coming years.⁵

In “Security, Growth - Development”, the Government outlines its policy priorities for Danish development assistance in the period 2005-2009. The priorities follow the priorities for development assistance set out in “*A World of Difference*” and include new, concrete initiatives including:

- A better, more efficient poverty reduction - the level of assistance is to be maintained
- A new Danish Africa policy where the development policy is joined with foreign policy, trade policy and security policy in order to increase the likelihood of the continent’s reaching the Millennium Development Goals
- An Arab initiative to support modernisation and development in the Arab world as well as to increase the dialogue with the region
- A strengthened environment profile and a stronger global environmental cooperation where an additional DKK 800 million is set aside for the environmental assistance in the period 2005-09.
- An increased effort for human rights, democratisation and good governance
- A targeted assistance for reconstruction and development in Afghanistan, Iraq and Sudan
- A strengthened effort to prevent and fight HIV/AIDS
- An increased focus on economic growth through a strengthened private sector⁶

In addition, the Danish Government has indicated that development policy will increasingly focus on the promotion of stability and security as well as conflict prevention, mediation, peacemaking and peacekeeping.⁷ The Danish Government maintains that this shift in development assistance is essential in order to maintain Denmark’s activist and proactive foreign policy.

4. How Denmark Engages in Environmental Cooperation in Conflict Zones

Denmark’s work in the Baltic region has been an important priority focus in terms of its environmental cooperation efforts. This work consists of five main actions:

⁴ Heldgaard, Esper. “Denmark: a World of Difference Indeed”. *Reality of Aid*. 2004. *Reality of Aid*. 14 Jun 2006. <http://www.realityofaid.org/roareport.php?table=roa2004&id=77>

⁵ “A World of Difference: The Government’s Vision for New Priorities in Development Assistance 2004-2008”. *Royal Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs*. Jun 2003. *Royal Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs*. 14 Jun 2006. <http://www.um.dk>

⁶ “Security, Growth – Development”. *Royal Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs*. Aug 2004. *Royal Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs*. 14 Jun 2006. <http://www.um.dk>

⁷ See: www.um.dk/Publikationer/Danida/English/Danish_Development_Cooperation/

- a. Water, with action on both wastewater treatment and drinking water supply, with a view to meeting the EU's requirements, including the special requirements made concerning environmental quality in the Baltic Sea, and to supporting the preparedness for fighting oil pollution in the Baltic Sea;
- b. Waste, with the main focus on establishing landfills, treatment of hazardous waste, including action on chemicals;
- c. The nuclear area, with action focused on continued assistance in connection with the decommissioning of the Ignalina Power Station;
- d. Climate, with preparation of projects in Russia and Poland that are suitable for Joint Implementation,
- e. Institution building, with assistance in areas in which analyses have shown that the countries will have serious problems with EU legislation.

5. How Denmark Contributes to Environmental Conflict Prevention and Resolution

In its June 2004 policy report, "A Changing World – New Threats, New Responses" the Danish Government outlines its priorities and actions against terrorism. The policy report highlights in particular, the Government plans to develop Denmark's contribution to conflict prevention and conflict management through increased support to the work of the international organisations to promote stability and security. In the report, Danish Minister of Foreign Affairs, Dr. Per Stig Moller affirms Denmark's dedication to providing economic and political support to developing countries through the "use of 'soft power' such as the persuasiveness and integrity of our ideas and values in these international settings, but when the situations require action - we are ready to shoulder our responsibility to ensure a better world." The focus will be aimed in particular at the UN and its organisations, especially measures in Africa. Terrorism is not a problem for the rich countries alone, which can be confirmed by the population of Bali, in Nairobi and in Casablanca.⁸

Denmark's contribution to the prevention of conflicts in developing countries will comprise six focus areas, all of which are, to a varying degree, integral elements in Denmark's development policy. Of particular relevance is the focus on the promotion of sustainable development. Increased attention will be given to ensuring that development assistance does not increase the probability of armed conflict and to ways in which the assistance can contribute to its prevention.⁹

6. Conclusion

Denmark increases environmental security in the world with a domino-effect approach, believing that a reduction in poverty leads to reduced crime and increased security in developing states. Its efforts focus on "soft politics", with emphasis being placed on humanitarian aid and relief, economic development, and political stability. By working with international institutions, including the UN, the EU, and NATO, Denmark works to increase security and stability in the global environment.

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⁸ "A Changing World – New Threats, New Responses". Royal Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Jun 2004. Royal Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs. 14 Jun 2006. <http://www.um.dk>

⁹ "Conflict Prevention and Conflict Resolution". Royal Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs. 14 Jun 2006. http://www.um.dk/Publikationer/Danida/English/DanishDevelopmentCooperation/DenmarksDevelopmentPolicyAnalysis/10_3.asp

