

environmental quality. As a result, many of the federal government's environmental protection and renewable resource programs are carried out in co-operation with the provinces.

In order to further develop and co-ordinate co-operative action, the Department of the Environment initiated discussions with the provinces toward concluding Federal-Provincial Accords for the Protection and Enhancement of Environmental Quality. These accords will provide the mechanism for co-operative action by federal and provincial governments and are viewed as "umbrella" agreements under which subsidiary agreements covering specific aspects of environmental action may be signed.

There is a wide range of federal-provincial programs and activities in the environmental and renewable resource field and examples of some of the current ones follow.

Assessments of the potential environmental impact of major projects, in which the federal government has an interest, are being carried out by federal departments in co-operation with provincial and territorial governments. Procedures have been issued for the implementation of a more formalized environmental assessment, review and protection process which ensures that environmental matters are taken into account throughout the planning and implementation of projects, programs or activities in which the federal government has an interest. This process will provide for consultation and co-operation with the provinces and territories in assessments of projects of mutual concern.

The National Air Pollution Surveillance Network established under the authority of the Clean Air Act consists, with certain exceptions, of monitoring stations operated by provincial governments using equipment loaned by the federal government.

The planning and management of Canada's water resources require continuing institutional arrangements within which all jurisdictions and expertise can be brought together for joint goal setting, planning and operation. Federal-provincial agreements under the authority of the Canada Water Act provide for the planning and implementation of water basin management programs and include agreements for joint study of various aspects of water management in specific geographical areas. Also, under the Canada Water Act, arrangements may be made with individual provinces, as required, to co-ordinate federal and provincial water quality monitoring programs and to exchange data.

There are many other formal and informal federal-provincial programs related to specific aspects of renewable resources and the environment such as fisheries, forest and wildlife management, hydrometric data gathering, flood damage assistance and flood control, and forest pest control. Also, specific non-recurring joint programs are developed from time to time. An example of this is the Canada/Ontario study to survey Great Lakes shoreline damage resulting from recent high water levels and to provide the basis for recommendations on long-term remedial and protective measures.

1.5.3 International programs

Canada is involved in two distinct types of multilateral programs — those which are primarily environmental and those which are primarily resource conservation and management. Most of the latter focus on the aquatic environment. For example, Canada is a member of the International Council for Exploration of the Sea. This 17-member body encourages and co-ordinates studies of the marine environment with particular reference to the living resources of the sea, primarily in the North Sea and North Atlantic. Canada is also a member of 10 international fisheries commissions established under the terms of formal conventions. These commissions assume responsibility for the investigation of specific living marine resources in defined areas, in order to further rationalize development and conservation of fisheries of common concern to member states.

Canada also participated in the International Hydrological Decade (January 1, 1965 — December 31, 1974) set up under United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) auspices to facilitate a better understanding of hydrological phenomena to allow predictions of the results of development of water resources in the interests of better management. The work has now been completed and the co-ordinating committee has held its last meeting. A follow-on program to promote education in the field of hydrology, called the International Hydrological Program, has been launched.

Within the framework of the International Hydrological Decade, Canada and the United States undertook an intensive study of Lake Ontario under the title International Field Year