

stations operated by provincial governments using equipment loaned by the federal government.

The management of Canada's water resources requires 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 water basin management programs and include agreements for joint study of water management in specific geographical areas. Also arrangements may be made with individual provinces to coordinate federal and provincial water quality monitoring programs and to exchange data.

Many other formal and informal federal-provincial programs are 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, forest pest control and weather forecasting. Specific non-recurring joint programs are developed from time to time. An example 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 coordinates 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 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 is participating in the International Hydrological Program set up under UNESCO to facilitate a better scientific understanding of hydrological phenomena, and was chairman of the intergovernmental council for IHP during the biennium 1975-77. Canada is also participating in the Operational Hydrological Program set up under World Meteorological Organization auspices to facilitate a better understanding of operational methods in hydrology. These two international programs are closely coordinated.

Canada played an active role in preparing for the UN Water Conference in Argentina in March 1977, a high level policy conference focussing on coordinated water management at the national level.

Canada has also been active in the Intergovernmental Maritime Consultative Organization (IMCO), one of the specialized agencies of the United Nations, particularly on the Marine Environment Protection Committee. In October 1973, IMCO sponsored an international conference on marine pollution which drafted an international agreement regulating the intentional and negligent discharges of oil and other harmful substances by ships and other equipment operating in the marine environment. The International Convention on Dumping of Wastes at Sea, formulated in accordance with a recommendation of the Stockholm UN Conference and concluded and opened for signature on December 29, 1972, has been signed and ratified by Canada. Canada has been an active member in the consultative meetings concerning that convention.

Because Canada has an extensive coastline and continental shelf, it was deeply involved in preparations for the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea. The procedural session opened in New York in December 1973 and substantive sessions took place in Caracas (Summer 1974), Geneva (Spring 1975), and New York (Spring 1976 and August 1976). Among the issues dealt with at the conference were sovereign rights over the resources of the continental