

developed and developing countries from both centrally-planned and free enterprise economics; it is the only multilateral intergovernmental body established for the sole purpose of dealing with global and regional environmental issues and problems; and it is essentially a co-ordinating body rather than an operational one. It resulted from the Stockholm UN conference on human environment in 1972 and it has its headquarters in Nairobi, Kenya. Canada is a member of the governing council, has participated in the development of its program, and has contributed to the environment fund. At the fifth session of the governing council in Nairobi, May 1977, a work program in the following areas was approved: human settlements and human health, ecosystems, environment and development, oceans, energy and natural disasters.

Canada also participates in activities of the senior advisers on environmental problems, one of the principal subsidiary bodies of the UN Economic Commission for Europe (ECE). The senior advisers assemble information on the environment in the ECE region, analyze international implications of national policies, encourage studies of selected problems of environmental policy, and promote relevant intergovernmental agreements. The senior advisers in Geneva in February 1977, in a policy discussion on environmental impact assessment practices in different countries, agreed to undertake a co-operative program on the long-range transport of air pollutants and to set up a task force on recycling and recovery of municipal and industrial solid wastes. The secretariat was asked to prepare a proposal for a future work program on low- and non-waste technology.

Canada has continued to participate in the UNESCO program on man and the biosphere, a research program to improve knowledge of terrestrial biological resources and of inter-relationships between human activities and ecosystems. As a member of the international co-ordinating council, Canada has been influential in injecting social science concerns into the program. The main focus for Canadian input is related to four themes: urbanization and industrialization, agricultural and forestry management practices, coastal ecosystems, and Arctic and isolated area development.

The Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development established an environment committee to examine common problems related to protection and enhancement of the natural and urban environment. This committee recommended adoption of the polluter pays principle as well as limitations in use of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs). It approved work in recycling and waste prevention, and economic incentives in waste management, air pollution, water pollution, urban environment and energy. Canada has participated actively in this committee.

Canada is also a member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization's committee on challenges of modern society. Work of this committee includes pilot projects in which one country accepts a leadership role for a particular problem and only those countries with sufficient interest participate. Canada was the lead country in a project on inland water pollution, completed in 1974, and in 1978 was the lead country in a nutrition and health project. Canada also participates in other projects on waste water treatment, disposal of hazardous wastes and air pollution assessment.

Canada is a member of the World Weather Watch, and has set up nine stations of a planned network of 11 for monitoring air pollution in non-urban areas. In co-operation with some provinces, Canada is providing air quality data for Canadian cities as part of a World Health Organization program. Canada also contributed to a program of the integrated global ocean station system, a global investigation of the pollution of the marine environment of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, participated in a group of experts on the scientific aspects of marine pollution and co-operated in the development of a global environmental monitoring system, an integral part of the Earthwatch program.