

economic and financial affairs of Canada. The department's work is carried out in five branches. A fiscal policy and economic analysis branch is responsible for planning fiscal policy, analysis of its effects on the economy, and analyzing and forecasting the financial requirements of the federal government. A tax policy and legislation branch analyzes and makes recommendations relating to tax policy and maintains a tax system that raises revenues and targets incentives to meet the government's goals. A federal-provincial relations and social policy branch makes policies for and administers major federal-provincial programs under which transfer payments are made to provinces, and is responsible for policy advice on social programs in the manpower, employment and cultural areas. An international trade and finance branch investigates and reports on proposals regarding the Canadian Customs Tariff and related matters; studies Canada's international trade policy, particularly as it relates to imports; advises on balance of payments and foreign exchange matters; deals with questions relating to the international monetary system; and administers Canada's relations with international monetary and financial institutions. An economic programs and government finance branch encourages the development of policies and programs for Canadian national resources. The inspector general of banks is an office of the department.

The following agencies report to Parliament through the minister of finance: the Anti-dumping Tribunal, the Bank of Canada, the Canada Deposit Insurance Corp., the Department of Insurance and the Tariff Board. The minister of finance acts as spokesman in Parliament for the auditor general.

Fisheries and Oceans, Department of. Established as a separate entity in April 1979 under the authority of the Government Organization Act, 1978, the fisheries and oceans department has overall responsibility for Canada's coastal and inland fisheries, fishing and recreational harbours, hydrography and marine sciences and the co-ordination of the federal government's policies and programs in respect to the oceans.

Departmental programs are concerned with fisheries and marine mammal resource management and conservation, enforcement of fisheries regulations, industrial development, fish inspection and quality control, marketing and promotion of fish products, biological and technical research on fish and other aquatic flora and fauna, fishing vessel insurance and vessel construction assistance administration, management and development of small craft harbours across Canada, studies on the management of recreational fisheries, and administration of international and federal-provincial fisheries agreements.

In the area of ocean and aquatic sciences, the department is responsible for physical, chemical and biological oceanography and limnology research aimed at gaining a better understanding of marine and freshwater environments. Other responsibilities include hydrographic surveying, measurement of tide and water levels and production of navigational, bathymetric and other charts of Canadian coastal and inland waters. Oceanographic information is acquired and disseminated through the marine environmental data service.

Fisheries Prices Support Board. Under the Fisheries Prices Support Act (RSC 1970, c.F-23) the board is responsible for investigating and, where appropriate, recommending action to support prices of fishery products where declines have occurred. Subject to approval of the cabinet, it is empowered to purchase fishery products at prescribed prices or to make deficiency payments to producers of fishery products equal to the difference between a prescribed price and the average price at which such products were sold. The board functions under the direction of the minister of fisheries and oceans.

Foreign Claims Commission. This commission was established under the Inquiries Act. When Canada makes an agreement with another country for a global settlement of property claims of Canadian citizens against that other country, the claims may be referred to the commission for recommendations as to which claimants are entitled to compensation. The procedure for making recommendations is governed by regulations made in respect of each other country. When negotiation of an agreement is in contemplation the secretary of state for external affairs may refer all claims of which the Canadian government has notice to the commission for a preliminary estimate. Claims against Hungary, Romania and Poland have been dealt with by the commission as have most claims against Czechoslovakia, Cuba and China. Claims against Yugoslavia and the German Democratic Republic have been referred to the commission for preliminary appraisal in contemplation of agreements with those countries.

Foreign Investment Review Agency. The agency was established in April 1974 by proclamation of the Foreign Investment Review Act (SC 1973-74, c.46). It assesses whether there is or will be significant benefit to Canada in proposals by non-Canadians regarding acquisition of control of Canadian business enterprises or establishment of new businesses in Canada. The agency is responsible to the minister of regional industrial expansion.

Freshwater Fish Marketing Corp. This corporation was established under the Freshwater Fish Marketing Act of 1969 (RSC 1970, c.F-13) and given the function of marketing and trading in fish, fish products and fish byproducts in and out of Canada with the objectives of ensuring more orderly marketing for the benefit of the whole fishery and achieving higher and more stable prices for the catch. The corporation received a grant for initial operating and establishment expenses but conducts its operations on a self-sustaining basis without parliamentary appropriations; it is financed by bank loans with government guarantee of repayment, or by direct loans. The corporation consists of a board of directors composed of a chairman, a president, one director for each participating province and four other directors appointed by the Governor-in-Council for a term not exceeding five years. The corporation reports to Parliament through the minister of fisheries and oceans.

Grains Group. In 1970 the minister responsible for the Canadian Wheat Board organized a special advisory group on grains (Grains Group) to co-ordinate, review and recommend federal policies for grain production, transportation and handling, and marketing. The minister