

mission to the Organization of American States in Washington, DC. In addition, officials of the Department of External Affairs represent Canada at many international conferences, such as the Review Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe which began in Vienna in November 1986.

Today, Canada's status is reflected in its role in international negotiations over such vital issues as human rights, the North-South dialogue, disarmament, law of the sea, energy management and nuclear non-proliferation.

Federal-provincial aspects. A federal-provincial co-ordination division in External Affairs Canada maintains liaison with the provinces to facilitate their necessary international activities in a manner that meets provincial objectives and preserves the coherence of Canadian foreign policy. The federal government's foreign policy includes recognition of legitimate provincial interests beyond national borders and continued promotion of national unity through adequate international projection of Canada's bilingual character.

Provincial participation at international conferences and in the work of international organizations is provided for by including provincial officials on Canadian delegations and by canvassing provincial governments for their views on positions and attitudes that Canada adopts on subjects treated by these organizations. These include areas of particular interest to the provinces such as human and civil rights, education, culture, health, agriculture, labour and environment.

Other international interests of the provinces include promotion of trade, investment, industrial development, immigration, tourism, cultural exchanges, environmental questions, science and technology, bilateral and multilateral agreements, and assistance to developing countries. In matters of aid, the federal government encourages a detailed federal-provincial consultation to ensure that specific projects are co-ordinated. Promotional activities of the provinces and their interests in international activities have led to an increased number of provincial offices and visits abroad.

Treaty-making powers. The federal government has exclusive responsibility for Canada's external affairs. There are frequent consultations between federal and provincial governments regarding treaties of provincial interest and responsibility.

Once it has been determined that what a province seeks through understandings, in fields of

provincial jurisdiction, meets with Canadian foreign policy, provision is often made for direct provincial participation in negotiating with the authorities of the foreign country. International agreements having legal effect at public international law, however, can be achieved only through the federal power to conclude treaties.

Foreign operations. The Department of External Affairs Canada receives and analyzes diplomatic and consular reports and statistics; negotiates consular conventions and multilateral and bilateral agreements; monitors legislative developments which affect the status of Canadian citizens abroad; provides a link with other government services such as immigration, refugee matters and citizenship; trains foreign service personnel; provides instructions to posts abroad; recommends appointments of honorary consuls; evaluates services provided; manages Canada's immigration program abroad; and co-ordinates external aspects of immigration policies and programs.

Trade services. External Affairs Canada is responsible for maintaining and furthering an international trading climate favourable to Canadian exporters and other economic interests and for policies and programs to safeguard and advance Canada's international trading interests. As the primary federal government contact with foreign governments and international organizations which influence trade, it consults with such governments and organizations and works closely with other federal government departments, Crown corporations and agencies, the provinces, and business and academic communities to achieve these objectives.

The trade commissioner service became part of External Affairs Canada in 1982, with 91 offices in 67 countries either directly in embassies and high commissions or in separate premises. Its primary role is to promote Canada's export trade and to protect Canada's commercial interests abroad.

External affairs also administers the policies of Tourism Canada abroad and provides advice on questions about consular activities.

Consular and immigration affairs. While the Employment and Immigration Commission has overall responsibility for formulation of Canada's immigration program, the responsibility for the delivery of the overseas component of this program rests with External Affairs. Visa officers are located at 64 Canadian missions to select and counsel both potential immigrants and those seeking temporary entry