

Deforestation

Global deforestation is an increasing concern. Canada believes that the Tropical Forestry Action Plan (TFAP) of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) should be used as the main coordinating body to achieve the protection and the sustainable use of tropical forests. TFAP has a good track record and Canada has contributed significantly to its work. Although trade in tropical timber is not the major cause of tropical deforestation, the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO) should focus its work on ensuring that tropical timber resources have greater remunerative market value for the producers by means of activities such as improved access to developed countries markets for value added tropical timber exports. It could also develop industry codes of conduct.

Marine Environment

Oceans are indiscriminately being used as receptacles for refuse. Their living resources are not being well managed. Canada hopes to see leaders recognize the importance of international cooperation in protecting and conserving the marine environment.

In Canada the Prime Minister recently announced the creation of a public review panel on the safe movement of oil and chemicals in bulk through Canadian waters and fishing zones, with the focus on oil tanker spillage. Canada would welcome and participate actively in international discussions leading to an international convention on oil spills.

1992 UN Conference on Environment and Development

International discussion on global environmental issues is increasingly being directed towards the important 1992 UN Conference on Environment and Development. Canada strongly supports the convening of the conference and will participate actively in its preparations, including a regional preparatory conference entitled "Action for a Common Future" to be held in Bergen, Norway in May 1990.

Assistance to Least Developed Countries (LDCs)

Industrialized countries must ensure that their development assistance policies reflect sustainable development principles and practices, both in bilateral programs and in multilateral development institutions. Canada is pressing multilateral development banks to devote more attention to environmental concerns in the design and implementation of projects. In addition, more than \$900 million per year of CIDA's program is allocated to projects designed to improve the management of renewable and non-renewable resources in developing countries. This is another aspect of the environmental question which Summit leaders may discuss.