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INTRODUCTION

Treasury Board Circular 1973-183 of December 31, 1973, to all Deputy Heads of Departments and Heads of Agencies set forth the need for a systematic and public set of standards of conduct for public service employees. It called upon departments and agencies to develop more specific provisions and guidelines pertaining to their own operations and responsibilities.

On December 18, 1973, the Governor General in Council approved P.C. 1973-4065, "Guidelines to be Observed by Public Servants Concerning Conflict of Interest Situations". These were promulgated in the same Treasury Board Circular 1973-183 as a Standard of Conduct for Public Service Employees, and departments were encouraged to supplement these provisions.

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The "Code of Conduct and Conflict of Interest" guidelines were prepared in consultation with all foreign service departments and have been approved by the ADM Sub-Committee on Foreign Operations. They are applicable to all Canada-based staff at Missions, and to all External Affairs staff at Headquarters. These guidelines supplement those prepared in other departments and do not limit the responsibilities of departments or their employees in matters of discipline.

Treasury Board has initiated a review of public service departmental and agency experience in applying the present "Guidelines to be Observed by Public Servants Concerning Conflict of Interest Situations".

As a convenience to all individuals to whom they apply, the guidelines have been reproduced in this booklet format for ease of reference.