

CONCLUSION

Sustainable development demands an integrated approach to decision-making, taking into consideration the environmental, economic and social implications of a given action. It implies a commitment to equity, for present and future generations, and spells out the need for humankind to live within its environmental means. This means ensuring a sound global ecology in addition to a stable global economy, and the fair distribution of the costs and benefits of sustainable development to all nations.

Sustainable development has become a core Canadian value and is directly relevant to the development of Canadian foreign policy in the areas of trade and prosperity, global peace and security, protection of the environment, and the projection of Canadian values and culture.

The Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade recognizes its responsibility to integrate sustainable development principles into foreign policy objectives. It also recognizes the need to ensure that its own performance supports and reflects its international activities.

The Department accepts the challenge of the task ahead. With Agenda 2000 as a basic framework, the Department makes clear its commitment to global sustainable development and equity for both present and future generations.