

vague and sweeping, but continues to support timely and useful initiatives for the progressive development of international law in relation to the new international economic order.

International attention was also focused on issues relating to science, technology and know-how. Negotiations progressed on an international code of conduct on the transfer of technology, during which Canada continued to act as spokesman for the developed states. The code is designed to create a set of rules to encourage the flow of technology from the developed to the developing countries. Negotiations also continued on a code of conduct on transnational corporations, whose purpose is the clarification of the respective responsibilities of host states, home states and transnational corporations. Finally, a second session of the Diplomatic Conference on the Revision of the Paris Convention was held, the purpose of which is to revise the convention that governs the protection of industrial property to reflect the concerns of the developing countries.

With adoption of the Agreement on the common fund for commodities, a preparatory commission was established to begin work on the regulations to govern the operations of the Fund upon its entry into force. One of the most interesting legal issues will be the final determination of the legal relationship between the individual commodity agreements and the Common Fund itself.

Environmental law

Several significant developments took place during 1981, particularly in the area of multilateral co-operation. The United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) Senior Level Meeting on Environmental Law was held in Montevideo, Uruguay, from October 28 to November 6, 1981. The decision to convene the meeting was taken by the UNEP Governing Council at its eighth session in April 1980, in response to a joint initiative by Canada and Sweden. At its ninth session, held in May 1981, the Governing Council decided that the mandate of the Senior Level Meeting would be to establish a framework and methods for the development and periodic review of environmental law, by focusing upon subjects suitable for increased global and regional co-ordination and co-operation, with particular regard to the interests of developing countries. The Senior Level Meeting was also directed to set out a program, including global, regional and national efforts in furtherance of the above elements. UNEP's Working Group of Experts on Environmental Law met in Geneva from September 9 to 18 as a preparatory committee for the Senior Level Meeting.

The report of the Senior Level Meeting contains three chapters. The first, entitled "Conclusions and Recommendations of Montevideo", is in the form of a declaration by the senior government officials in their capacities as experts on environmental law. It places the results of the Senior Level Meeting in the context of the positive developments since the 1972 Stockholm Conference and gives an outline of environmental law priorities for the coming decade. The second chapter contains the detailed "Program for the Development and Periodic Review of Environmental Law"