

both of collective progress and of personal fulfilment.

Canadians have noted with deep interest your enactment of organic laws for the courts and the procuratorate, as well as a criminal law and a law of criminal procedure, and a variety of other laws and regulations. These speak for themselves in recognizing the need to protect the individual and further the rule of law. Other measures have been the re-establishment of the Ministry of Justice, together with its local bureaux and offices, and the drafting of regulations for the legal profession.

It has been especially gratifying to see the re-emergence of the Chinese Society for International Law and *The Chinese Yearbook of International Law*, as well as the publication of articles in English by such scholars as Li Yunchang and Chen Zhucheng in the *Beijing Review* and elsewhere. These developments have been paralleled by the expansion of your law schools and the growth of scholarly and professional exchanges with universities and other organizations in Canada and elsewhere. Our scholars have been honoured to work with and learn from Professor Wang Te-Ya, Professor T.C. Chen, Dean Shou-Yi Chen, and others. We look forward to more exchanges in the future.

In the field of international law, it is noteworthy that China has made its presence felt with particular effect in two areas of particular concern to Canada — namely, international environmental law and the law of the sea.

#### Environmental integrity

Canada and China worked closely and constructively together at the Stockholm Conference on the Human Environment. Like China, Canada occupies one of the largest land masses in the world and fronts on one of the longest coastlines in the world. Both our countries must inevitably be concerned with the protection of their environmental integrity, which necessarily also implies the protection of the environment in areas beyond national jurisdiction. It is true of course that the principles of sovereign equality and non-interference allow states to regulate activities within their boundaries as they see fit. Sovereignty, however, does not confer unbridled licence. Canada has long subscribed to the view that no state should use its territory or allow it to be used in such a way as to injure the environment of another state or of the international commons. Indeed, Canada was a party to the now classic Trail Smelter Case that first enunciated this basic tenet of international environmental law. China's view of sovereign equality and non-interference, I am pleased to note, similarly takes into account the need to avoid injury to the vital interests of others.

#### Law of the Sea

Canada and China have also been effective partners in the elaboration of the emerging new law of the sea. We have contributed to state practice and the evolution of customary law, which now recognizes, for instance, the 12-mile territorial sea and the 200-mile economic zone. We have supported the concept that the resources of the international seabed area are the common heritage of mankind. We are committed to the successful conclusion of the Law of the Sea Conference. And we know that a comprehensive, universal treaty is indispensable to international order and stability.

At the heart of our common approach to the law of the sea is our common realization that the proposed treaty represents more than a constitution for the oceans. What is