

I. INTRODUCTION

This Report provides an overview of the current status of international and domestic law and practice with application to transboundary air pollution between the United States and Canada.

The August 1980 Memorandum of Intent signed by the United States and Canada set up the current approach for addressing the problem of transboundary air pollution between the two countries. It was preceded by a July 1979 Joint Statement by both Governments which outlines the existing basis of international obligation, commitment and cooperative practice on which to address problems in this area. An overview of applicable multilateral principles and practices is contained in Chapter III. An overview of existing bilateral obligations and their implementation is contained in Chapter IV.

The Memorandum of Intent expresses the commitment of both Governments to negotiate a cooperative agreement on transboundary air pollution and, pending its conclusion, to take interim measures available under existing authority. An overview of current domestic authorities in the field of air pollution in both countries is contained in Chapter V.