

projects. The access to EC R&D projects for Canadian private sector, university or government laboratories' researchers is possible, on an ad hoc basis, if the European contractors have chosen a Canadian partner based on his capacity to bring an added-value to the project.

In the interest of improving prospects and mechanisms for joint cooperation, Canadian Ministers had raised, at the June 2, 1989 JCC meeting, the question of negotiating a bilateral Science and Technology Framework Agreement to strengthen existing cooperation between Canada and the EC. This could expand the scope for access to one another's R&D programs on a mutually advantageous basis. The Commission is in the process of developing a global strategy on the question of cooperation with third countries in science and technology. This strategy is expected to be discussed with Member States at the Council of Research very soon. Once this strategy is finalized, Canada and the EC will have a better indication of how to proceed.

At the same time, the Canadian side undertook to review its own R&D programs with the Commission in order to give the EC a better understanding of Canadian R&D capacities and strengths, and to clarify opportunities for access of Community operators to those programs.

- (iii) Finally the review of the current cooperation over the last year which is summarized in the 1989-1990 Work Program shows a clear increase in activities due in part to the numerous visits of Canadian researchers to Europe, and presentations of R&D activities of the EC through the participation of EC officials in various workshops in Canada.

Good progress has been made in the energy sector with successful projects in biomass and also major advances in the cooperation on thermo-nuclear fusion, and in the environmental sector, especially after the September 1989 consultations on environment and the visits of Canadian experts on waste water treatment to the Joint Research Centre at Ispra. New projects have been tabled in forestry research