

amounts of carbon dioxide in our industrial, transportation and energy related activities, any international agreement to curtail emissions of greenhouse gases could have an impact on our economy. The federal government is working with its international partners to address the global warming issue in a way that takes into consideration our long-term economic and environmental interests.

- Canada hosted the Conference on the Changing Atmosphere in Toronto in the summer of 1988. Bringing together scientists, environmentalists, government officials and business representatives from around the world, the Toronto Conference helped set the agenda for international action on global warming.
- Canada is aggressively pursuing an International Framework Convention on Climate Change, with the hope that negotiations will be completed in time for countries to sign at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in 1992.
- Canada has already made a commitment to stabilize emissions of CO₂ and other greenhouse gases at 1990 levels by the year 2000 and has pledged to eliminate controlled CFCs by 1997. The National Action Strategy on Global Warming, developed by the federal government in co-operation with its provincial partners and announced in the Green Plan, provides a framework for addressing the global warming issue within Canada.

STOPPING OZONE DEPLETION

The stratospheric ozone layer acts as a barrier against ultraviolet radiation, overexposure to which is known to cause skin and eye cancers, reduce crop yields and kill the phytoplankton that are at the base of the marine food chain. The costs, to both our health and our economic welfare, of allowing too much ultra-violet radiation to reach the earth's surface are extremely high. Protecting the ozone layer is essential to safeguard the health of Canadians and the ecosystem that serves as the foundation for our economy.

- Canada has been at the forefront of international efforts to control CFCs and other chemicals that deplete the ozone layer. Canada played a leading role in the negotiation of the 1987 Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer.
- At a conference held in London in June 1990, Canada was the first nation to ratify a strengthened protocol calling for the phase-out of CFCs by the year 2000 and other major ozone-depleting substances by 2005. Since then,