

4.5 Environmental Cooperation

Canada's global environmental challenges in the 1990s are to:

- sustain the momentum generated by the 1992 U.N. Conference on the Environment and Development (UNCED);
- continue advancing key Canadian interests, notably in forestry and high seas fisheries; and
- shape the work underway in the GATT and elsewhere on the linkages between trade and the environment so that sustainable development is effectively addressed, while ensuring that Canada's trade interests as the G-7 country that most depends on resource-product exports are fully taken into account.

Several Latin American countries should be intensively cultivated as key players in the environmental area. Brazil, other Amazonian Basin countries and Mexico are important interlocutors with respect to forestry management issues, including forests as carbon sinks and their role in controlling global warming. As economies for which resource and agricultural trade is of critical importance, there is a shared interest with Canada in ensuring that current discussions and eventual negotiations on trade and the environment are managed in a constructive and balanced manner. The Latin American countries also represent an increasingly attractive market for Canadian pollution abatement equipment and technology. Consequently, Canada should establish a regular and sustained environmental policy dialogue with key regional players at the senior officials' level. This dialogue has now begun with Mexico in light of the NAFTA. It should be extended to Amazonian Basin countries, especially Brazil, and Central America. Moreover, as mentioned above, Canadian ODA should sharpen its focus on environmental cooperation, especially with respect to global commons issues such as rain forest management, and private sector technical cooperation related to pollution control and abatement.

- **Political Good Governance - Proposals**

With our commitment to good governance, our solid democratic traditions and our positive image within the region, Canada has an opportunity and an obligation to support, within the limits imposed by fiscal restraint and the availability of human resources, the political liberalization process throughout the region. The establishment, pursuant to a Canadian proposal, and funding of the Unit for the Promotion of Democracy at the OAS has been a substantial manifestation of our