

space project now being planned. Canada's partners include the United States, Japan, and 11 European countries represented by the European Space Agency. Other negotiations have dealt with formalizing the inter-agency arrangement for the COSPAS-SARSAT search and rescue satellite system involving Canada, United States, France and U.S.S.R., and with developing an agreement for Canada-U.S.S.R. co-operation in space science.

The Department is involved in planning and negotiations concerning other major space activities. RADARSAT, Canada's first earth observation satellite, will provide information for managing resources and asserting Canadian sovereignty in the Arctic and offshore. RADARSAT planning has been undertaken jointly by Canada, the U.S. and the U.K. Canada is the only non-European nation to be associated with the European Space Agency. This association has provided access for Canadian firms to European advanced technologies and has allowed them to

exploit growing markets in Europe and abroad. Negotiations have also continued with the United States concerning the M-SAT mobile communications satellite. Several Memoranda of Understanding between Canadian government departments and agencies and their counterparts in other countries, including the United States, Japan and the U.S.S.R., were under development during the past year in areas such as space science, remote sensing and space technologies.

The Department co-ordinates Canada's participation in multilateral forums that deal with space policy including the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and its associated sub-committees. A major activity has been the development of a set of criteria governing the safe use of nuclear power sources in space, an issue of particular importance to Canada since the 1978 crash of COSMOS 954 in the Canadian Arctic.