

task forces during periods of international tension or crisis, and provide briefing and conference facilities.

There are seven geographical divisions: African and Middle Eastern, Commonwealth, Far Eastern, Latin American, U.S.A., European, and Pays francophones. The last was created in October 1967 to deal with Canada's increasing relations with French-speaking countries, thus reflecting more effectively its bilingual and bicultural character in its relations with other states. Their primary task is to provide the advice on which Canada's general political relations with other countries are based. In addition, they are consulted on the political aspects of matters that are primarily legal, economic, consular, etc., and they have a general responsibility for co-ordinating the various aspects of Canadian policy with respect to the countries and areas with which they are concerned.

The United Nations Division deals with matters relating to the United Nations and its Specialized Agencies and is responsible for providing advice relating to Canadian participation in and policies toward these organizations. This involves keeping under constant review the many fields of activity of the United Nations system and assessing their political, economic and financial implications for Canada.

The United Nations Division undertakes general responsibility for co-ordinating, in consultation with other divisions of the Department and other departments and agencies of Government, the preparation of instructions and guidance for Canadian delegations to such United Nations conferences as the annual sessions of the General Assembly, meetings of United Nations subsidiary bodies, and meetings of the Specialized Agencies.

The Co-ordination Division is concerned with the federal-provincial aspects of Canada's international relations. The division's primary responsibility is to maintain close liaison with the provinces concerning their interests in international affairs and to facilitate their international activities in a manner that will fully meet provincial objectives and be consistent with a unified Canadian foreign policy. Thus the division carries out a liaison function at both provincial and federal levels of government. On the provincial level, it is in regular contact with officials of the provinces and, in conjunction with provincial authorities, constantly seeks to establish closer working relations and more effective procedures for consultation. On the federal level, the division works closely with other departments and agencies to ensure that full account is taken of provincial interests abroad. Within the Department of External Affairs, the division co-ordinates the activities of other divisions and of Canadian posts abroad when these relate to areas of provincial interest.

In carrying out these objectives, the Co-ordination Division is engaged primarily in the following activities. It assists in making necessary arrangements for visits abroad by provincial representatives, as well as for visits of foreign personalities to the provinces. The division also attempts to ensure that the provinces are adequately represented on Canadian delegations to international conferences and organizations. With respect to Canada's program of assistance to developing countries, the division seeks to ensure that provincial aid projects