

Canada-France Mixed Commission meets annually to stimulate exchanges between the scientific communities of the two countries. Analagous to its trade counterpart, the Scientific and Technological Mission explores "in depth" opportunities available for co-operation through exchanges of personnel and information, joint ventures and research projects. In 1971, agreements for increased scientific and technological co-operation were signed with the U.S.S.R., Belgium and the Federal German Republic following visits to those countries by Canadian missions.

The environmental activities of the Division are likewise divided on a multilateral and bilateral basis. Among the multilateral activities is the co-ordination of extensive Canadian Government preparations for the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment to be held in Stockholm in June 1972. The co-ordination of Canadian "input" into the program of the OECD Environment Committee, which deals with the international trade implications of environmental policies, the NATO Committee on the Challenges of Modern Society and a number of other international organizations with environmental dimensions, is the Division's other main multilateral environmental responsibility.

With respect to bilateral relations, the Division is assisting in the negotiations of the proposed Canada-United States Agreement on the Great Lakes, which is expected to be concluded by the two governments early in 1972. The Division is also engaged in facilitating numerous other bilateral environmental activities, involving all the inhabited regions of the world and some of the others as well.

Transport, Communications and Energy Division

Oil

The Division played an active role in co-ordinating the interdepartmental consultations on all aspects of energy questions, in particular those concerning gas and oil, including northern pipelines and related matters. It has helped co-ordinate Canadian expressions of concern to the United States at the consequences of large-scale tanker movements down the West Coast between the Port of Valdez in Alaska and oil refineries in the Northwest United States, and has assisted in the co-ordination of other aspects of Canadian energy relations with other countries. In addition, it monitors, on a continuing basis and in consultation with other departments, the world oil situation, including developments affecting the supply of oil from member countries of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries to the markets of the oil-importing countries.

Atomic Energy

During the past year, Canadian officials and scientists continued to participate in a variety of conferences and symposia on nuclear energy, including the fifteenth general conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), which was held from September 21 to 28 in Vienna. Canada was again designated to hold one of the five seats on the Board of Governors, reserved for the members most advanced in the technology of atomic energy, including the production of source materials. Canada has been a member of the Board of Governors every year since the Agency's inception. The Canadian Ambassador to Austria, Mr. N.F.H. Berlis, serves as Canada's representative on