

1- Bureau of Legal Affairs

The Bureau of Legal Affairs, headed by the Director General and Legal Adviser, Mr. J. Alan Beesley, comprises two divisions: the Legal Advisory Division and the Legal Operations Division. The Legal Advisory Division includes three sections: Economic; Advisory and Constitutional; and, Treaty. The Legal Operations Division includes four sections: Environmental; Law of the Sea; United Nations and Legal Planning; and, Private International Law. Together the two divisions provide a general advisory service to the Department of External Affairs and other departments and agencies on issues of international law and act as the operational arm of the Department in international law activities. As the names of the divisions indicate, the accent in the Legal Advisory Division is on the advisory function and, in the Legal Operations Division, on the operational function. The Bureau functions, however, as a co-ordinated unit, responsible for the total of the Canadian Government's international law interests.

In performing its responsibilities, the Bureau provides the Department of External Affairs with the means of exercising an international law function directly related to foreign policy. In addition the Bureau maintains liaison with the Departments of Justice and the Solicitor General, the Office of the Judge Advocate General in the Department of National Defence and the legal services branches of other departments and agencies on a variety of international law issues, both public and private, effecting the interests of those departments. On a number of international law issues, for