

1. The design and implementation of trade policies and agreements that reflect environmental considerations and accommodate and assist the achievement of sustainable development;
2. The design and implementation of effective environmental policies and agreements that minimize trade distortions, including for example, the use of economic instruments and the compatibility of standards;
3. An examination of the extent to which greater integration of trade and environmental policies can contribute to the goals of trade liberalization and environmental protection, including the consideration of the internalization of environmental costs in prices and of the environmental effects of trade liberalization;
4. An examination of how, why, to what extent and to what effect trade measures have been and could be used to achieve environmental objectives, both domestic and global, and the implications for policies;
5. An analysis of the competitiveness and investment impacts of environmental policies, insofar as they affect trade; and
6. A review and update of the 1972 OECD Guiding Principles Concerning the International Economic Aspects of Environmental Policies.

## **E. CONSULTATIONS**

Since November 1991, officials responsible for the development and presentation of Canada's positions at the OECD have been consulting with representatives of environmental, developmental and other non-governmental organizations on the relationship between trade and the environment. These consultations have taken place via the UNCED and NAFTA advisory processes and through the International Trade Advisory Committee and the Sectoral Advisory Groups on International Trade.

The OECD Joint Experts Group sponsored a two-day meeting with non-government environmental and development organizations on September 24 and 25, 1992 in order to more fully discuss the progress made to date by the Group, to obtain input from the non-government organizations and to highlight the work program of the Group for the coming year. Canadian participants represented the Sierra Club, Pollution Probe, and the Canadian Environmental Law Association. Up to three non-government organization representatives attended from each OECD country. In addition to providing background documents to the non-government organizations, they were invited to submit their own papers in order to help further the dialogue.

## **F. CONCLUSIONS**

Environmental issues are receiving priority attention from many of the world's governments. Individually, they have implemented policies and regulations to deal with such matters as air and water pollution, land degradation, the handling and storage of hazardous wastes, packaging, labelling and recycling. When confronted with challenges of a transboundary or global nature, countries should co-operate to find collective responses.