

Functions of the Department

- (q) *Canadian observer mission to: Organization of American States (OAS) (Washington);*
- (r) *Canadian mission (resident in Brussels) to the European Communities: European Economic Community (EEC), European Atomic Energy Agency (Euratom), European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC);*
- (s) *Permanent representative to: Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) (Rome).*

The Department of External Affairs has the primary responsibility for the promotion and protection of Canada's interests abroad and the conduct of Canada's foreign relations. Fundamental national aims are reflected in and advanced by Canada's foreign policy in a complex, challenging and sometimes threatening world. A review of foreign policy published in 1970 identified these main purposes of national policy:

- (1) to foster economic growth;
- (2) to safeguard sovereignty and independence;
- (3) to work for peace and security;
- (4) to promote social justice;
- (5) to enhance the "quality of life";
- (6) to ensure a harmonious natural environment.

The character of Canadian foreign policy is determined by the evolving pattern of emphasis given to these aims by the Government in the light of foreign and domestic constraints, including the resources available to the Government.

In carrying out its responsibilities, the Department:

- (a) ensures the effective representation of Canada in other countries and in international organizations (the conduct of Canada's foreign relations involves extensive contact, communication and negotiation with other countries and organizations through a network of Canadian representatives abroad, as well as through