A message from the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Deputy Minister of International Trade, the Associate Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and the Assistant Deputy Minister of the International Platform Branch



Morris Rosenberg Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs



**Louis Lévesque** Deputy Minister of International Trade

We are pleased to present the Annual Report on Canada's Network for 2011-2012. This key document describes numerous achievements by Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT) and the international platform, through which a network of missions and services is maintained that allows the Government of Canada to achieve its international priorities.

This fiscal year was characterized by important initiatives. A comprehensive strategic and operating review of the cost of programs was undertaken by DFAIT as part of a government-wide Deficit Reduction Action Plan (DRAP). Several recommendations were submitted by the department. At the end of March, changes announced in Budget 2012 included reducing the number of Canada-based and locally engaged staff, replacing a certain number of official residences with more modest properties, reducing the vehicle fleet for heads of mission and other staff members, and extending the duration of postings. Implementation of these measures will begin in the current fiscal year (2012-2013) and the next Annual Report will present related progress.

In addition, on August 4, 2011, the Government of Canada created Shared Services Canada (SSC) as part of the Administrative Services Review (ASR). SSC consolidated Information Technology (IT) services across departments in three areas (networks, data centres and email) in order to enhance efficiencies in the delivery of IT services. To this end, 44 departments, including DFAIT, transferred employees and financial resources dedicated to the three areas to SSC. Along with other departments, DFAIT also contributed an amount of corporate resources (internal services) to support SSC.