

Mr. Hank, whose Ministry is also responsible for Mexico's forests, met with Mr. Oberle to review cooperation with Canada in the development and protection of forestry resources, particularly Canadian assistance in forest fire detection and firefighting, as well as reforestation and seed propagation programs.

The Environment Ministers from both countries found considerable common ground in their discussions. Mr. Bouchard and Mr. Chirinos agreed on the importance of environmental issues in both countries and the extensive range of activities for possible bilateral cooperation on matters of common interest. In this spirit, it was agreed to examine prospects for cooperation in the rehabilitation of land areas affected by industrial pollution; to amplify and strengthen existing cooperation in relation to migratory species; and to cooperate in the restoration of freshwater lakes.

Both Ministers also stressed the need for international cooperation to confront serious global problems such as ozone depletion and climatological change.

In recognition of the importance of tourism to the economic development of both countries, Mr. Hockin and Mr. Joaquin reviewed proposed modifications to the existing Tourism Cooperation Agreement between both countries.

Both countries affirmed their desire to promote investment and growth in tourism, and in this respect agreed that resumption of direct scheduled air services between the two countries would be desirable.

Mr. Alvarez del Castillo met with Mr. Lewis and Mr. Blais to review the status of bilateral and multilateral initiatives related to legal cooperation. The Treaty on the Execution of Penal Sentences signed in 1977 is exemplary of effective bilateral cooperation, and both countries have concluded successful discussions on other cooperative arrangements to improve extradition and legal cooperation, as well as closer relations in combatting the special problems related to drugs.

They noted with satisfaction that both countries were instrumental in the development of the new Vienna Convention Against Drug Trafficking, and would continue to work closely in multilateral fora including the Inter American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD), an agency of the OAS to which Canada is seeking membership.

The Ministers took note of the potential for cooperation in other areas, particularly mining, communications and fisheries, and agreed to facilitate an early exchange of visits by appropriate Ministers and officials.