

provision for addressing air pollution problems was the 1978 Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement, which contains a commitment by both governments to develop and implement programs to identify the sources of airborne pollutants entering the Great Lakes basin. Where these are significant, the Governments have agreed to consult on remedial measures.

Joint Statement. The first formal expression of the commitment of the two Governments to prevent and reduce transboundary air pollution is found in the Joint Statement on Transboundary Air Quality issued on July 26, 1979, which outlines the basis of "obligation, commitment and cooperative practices in existing environmental relations between Canada and the United States" and sets out principles and practices to be addressed in the development of a bilateral agreement on transboundary air quality. The first of these principles is: "Prevention and reduction of transboundary air pollution which results in deleterious effects of such a nature as to endanger human health, harm living resources and ecosystems, and impair or interfere with amenities and other legitimate uses of the environment."

Memorandum of Intent. From the general undertakings contained in the 1979 Joint Statement the two Governments proceeded to the Memorandum of Intent (MOI) on Transboundary Air Pollution signed by the two Governments on August 5, 1980. The MOI recognizes the importance and urgency of the problem, and goes on to set out in specific terms a framework and time for beginning negotiations on a bilateral transboundary air pollution agreement. The MOI also expresses both Governments' intentions to take interim actions available under current authority to combat transboundary air pollution. These deal with control measures, notification and consultation, and scientific information, research and development.

Notification and Consultation. Cooperation between the two Governments has not been limited to formal expressions of agreement, but has also been reflected in their actual practice over the years. Notification and consultation are carried out by the two Governments through the Department of State and the Department of External Affairs, who rely on information provided by agencies and jurisdictions in both countries. It can also be supplemented by a more informal exchange of information at the agency-to-agency or regional levels.

In general the focus of bilateral practice is on providing advance information adequate to enable the recipient country to determine what impact the activity may