

The *Francophone Institutions Division* co-ordinates Canada's multilateral relations with the 35 or so countries making up the French-speaking world community, as well as with French-speaking intergovernmental authorities and the many private French-speaking international associations.

At the governmental level, the division helps formulate and implement Canada's multilateral policy regarding the French-speaking countries and the institutions and programs of the international French-speaking community. Thus it is called on to co-ordinate the formulation and implementation of Canadian policy at meetings of the institutions of the Agency for Cultural and Technical Co-operation, the main forum of the world French-speaking community. Since its creation in 1970, the Agency has brought together about 26 member countries, two associate states, and two participating governments (Quebec since 1971 and New Brunswick since 1977). The division thereby ensures the participation of the Canadian Government and of those provincial governments involved in the programs and other activities of the Agency.

The division also co-ordinates Canadian participation in the two major French-speaking ministerial conferences of which Canada is a

member — the Conference of Ministers of Education and the Conference of Ministers of Youth and Sports of French-speaking Countries.

In the non-governmental sphere, it provides liaison with private international French-speaking associations and agencies and lends them its support with a view to promoting effective and representative Canadian participation.

The *Bureau of Intelligence Analysis and Security* deals with the security aspects of the Department's operations and is responsible for the conduct of liaison on security and intelligence matters.

The *Operations Centre* was set up to improve the ability of the Department and the Government to react quickly and to alert ministers and officials to reports and events of immediate significance for Canadian interests. Special task forces are often formed to deal with crises, and are located physically in the Centre, thus providing a useful focal-point for decision-making and information-gathering.