

conditions, implementation of sustainable development practices and the sharing of global resources and responsibilities will require new levels of international cooperation in this area. The 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, held in Brazil, brought together heads of state and government from around the world and represented the international community's most concerted effort to date to cooperate and increase understanding of environmental issues.

Threats from environmental degradation come from global as well as domestic sources. Canada wishes to establish effective international environmental guidelines and controls, to advance international environmental law, and to encourage international financial institutions and other international organizations to include protection of the environment as a factor when they make economic decisions.

## SECURING DEMOCRACY AND RESPECT FOR HUMAN VALUES

Canada's foreign policy will continue to make clear the abiding commitment of Canadians to human rights, the rule of law, and economic and political freedom. Forging an international consensus around universal human values is one of the best guarantees of Canada's future security and prosperity.

The end of the Cold War opens greater opportunities for further acceptance of democratic values around the world. Development assistance and debt relief will remain conditional on the implementation of appropriate economic reforms, and consultation among donor countries will continue on how this can best be achieved. Considerations of good government and respect for human rights will also play a role in the allocation of Canadian development assistance.