

rive, and of the Conference of Youth and Sports Ministers at Paris. The Department will also be responsible for organizing the visit to Canada, in May 1973, of delegates from countries belonging to the Conferences of Youth and Sports Ministers, in accordance with a resolution passed by the Ministerial Commission of the Conference.

Relations with the provinces

The Department maintains regular liaison with Quebec which was recognized in 1971 as a participating government in ACCT institutions, activities and programs, as with the governments of New Brunswick, Ontario and Manitoba regarding all aspects of francophone policy elaboration in Canada and Canadian participation in francophone conferences. This has involved coordinating the membership of Canadian delegations to meetings of the ACCT and to inter-governmental conferences such as the Conference of Ministers of Education of the French-speaking States of Africa and Madagascar and the Conference of Youth and Sports Ministers of the French-speaking states of Africa, Madagascar, Mauritius and Haiti.

Private associations

The Department is also interested in international French-speaking associations in the private sector. It has supported Canadian participation in the annual meetings of the French-language International Law Institute and in meetings of the International Association of French-language Parliamentarians. Finally, the Department continues to assist the Association of Partly or Wholly French-speaking Universities. It also takes an interest in the activities of other private associations such as the International Association for Francophone Solidarity, the Council for the Development of French in Louisiana and the Council on French life in America.

Inter-American Institutions

Policy developments in 1972 represented something of a watershed in Canadian relations with Latin America. Canada has had productive relations with the

countries of this region for many years and had obtained, on a selective basis, membership in a few inter-American institutions. Moreover, we had been working with the Latin Americans internationally on a whole range of issues of common concern.

The policy which Canada has pursued in Latin America since 1970 is identified as reflecting Canadian interests. It takes account of changing attitudes in Canada and changing realities in Latin America. It recognizes that each Latin American country has its own personality, but that there is also a Latin American community which is greater than the sum of its parts. It has been formulated on the basis of what we think we can reasonably do, and is being implemented systematically with an assurance of continuity for our Latin American partners. The assumptions it involves reflect hard realities in the minds of Canadians and Latin Americans, grounded in interests manifestly shared and concerns demonstrably held in common.

In the course of implementation, this Canadian policy has followed two complementary directions. We have moved forward on a bilateral front to add content and meaning to our relations with individual countries, and we have endeavoured to involve Canada more closely in the system of inter-American institutions. Thus, Canada was admitted to Permanent Observer status in the Organization of American States in 1972, and it also joined three of the most important inter-American organizations: the Inter-American Development Bank, the Pan-American Health Organization and the Inter-American Institute of Agricultural Sciences. This brings to eight the number of Pan-American institutions of which we are full members.

OAS and the IDB

In essence, Canada has tried to do two things: we have sought links with those bodies which are key institutions in the inter-American system, such as the OAS and the Inter-American Development Bank, and we have also joined some of the specialized organizations operating in areas where we have common interests with Latin American countries or where we felt that Canada was in a position to make a distinctive contribution.