

Belgium, and their intention to carry out joint projects in third countries.

The two delegations then moved on to a discussion of the specific agenda items and agreed on the following:

I. COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION

1. Higher Education and Research

Both Parties expressed pleasure with the growing cooperation between Netherlands and Canadian universities, colleges and research institutes. They will continue to encourage and facilitate this process as much as possible. In this connection, the Canadian side drew attention to the "Program of International Research Linkages" (PIRL) under which grants are available to support meetings by researchers. The two Parties exchanged statistics on linkages between the two countries in higher education and research.

The Canadian delegation explained the priorities and geographic focus of Canadian policy as outlined in the "Collaborative Policy Framework", stressing that this was a working document, and indicated interest in the corresponding Dutch policy paper "Widening Horizons". The Canadian delegation further provided a copy of the "Vancouver Communiqué".

The Netherlands delegation responded by drawing parallels between the policy challenges faced by Canada and those being faced by The Netherlands with regard to common key issues.

2. Scientific Cooperation

Both Parties indicated their interest in continuing scientific cooperation. Details will be discussed directly between the competent authorities.

3. Post-Secondary Education in Applied Sciences

The Netherlands delegation expressed its interest in stimulating cooperation between institutes of Post-secondary Education in Applied Sciences and counterpart institutions in Canada. In The Netherlands this activity will be channeled through the Pedagogisch Technische Hogeschool Nederland (PTHN) in Eindhoven.

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