The Claims Section protects the properties and interests abroad of Canadian citizens. Among the other subjects dealt with by the Legal Division are the providing of legal advice on administrative and consular matters, in respect of matters relating to diplomatic and consular immunities, and legal problems arising in connection with Canadian membership in the United Nations. The Law of the Sea is also a subject dealt with by this division.

The Co-ordination Division is concerned with questions that may be of particular interest to the provinces of Canada, such as the implementation of treaties that deal with matters relating to provincial legislative jurisdiction or the inclusion of provincial representatives in Canadian delegations to international conferences or meetings of interest to the province. The division also deals with requests from the provinces for information and assistance in relation to matters of interest to them. Its task is one of co-ordination within the Department and liaison with the provinces as required.

The direct relation between foreign policy and defence policy necessitates close liaison between the Department of External Affairs and other departments concerned, particularly the Department of National Defence. The Department's defence liaison divisions, including the Office of Politico-Military Affairs, are responsible for these aspects of the Department's work.

The co-ordination of Canadian foreign and defence policies in connection with Canada's membership in NATO, participation in North American defence and other military activities abroad, is dealt with by various committees on which the Department is represented. The Secretary of State for External Affairs is the Chairman of the Cabinet Committee on External Policy and Defence, the meetings of which are usually attended by the Under-Secretary as well. The Department is regularly represented at the meeting of the Defence Council in the Department of National Defence and on several senior interdepartmental bodies that examine and advise on various aspects of defence questions. The Department provides the Chairman of the Joint Intelligence Committee, a member and the Secretary of the Canadian section of the Canada-U.S. Permanent Joint Board on Defence and a member of the Canadian section of the Canada-U.S. Civil Emergency Planning Committee. The Office of Politico-Military Affairs is responsible for co-ordinating departmental views and for preparing papers for the departmental representatives on such interdepartmental bodies. It is the responsibility of the officers of this Office, and in particular of its North American Defence and NATO Division, to co-ordinate the preparation of instructions for the Canadian Permanent Delegation to the North Atlantic Council and briefs for periodic ministerial meetings concerned with defence questions and for the meetings of the Canada-U.S. Permanent Joint Board on Defence, held three times a year, and the Canada-U.S. Committee on Civil Emergency Planning, held twice yearly.

The Peacekeeping and Military Assistance Division is responsible for cooperation with the appropriate government departments and agencies concerning the Canadian military contribution to United Nations peace-keeping or peace-observation operations such as the UN Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP), the UN Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan (UNMOGIP), and the UN Truce Supervision Organization in the Middle East (UNTSO). This division is also charged with responsibility for co-ordinating Canadian military assistance to newly-independent countries (an activity which is financed through the Department's appropriations) and for