

to the new international environment. Canada should also consider redeploying some resources to new kinds of organizations like the Inuit Circumpolar Conference and the proposed Arctic Council that can respond to the new political, environmental, and security challenges facing Canada.

5. *Non-Governmental Organizations.* Forum participants suggested that business and professional associations, non-governmental organizations, churches, and universities should be key agents for Canada to exercise its influence internationally. They should be the Government's strategic partners. The Government should co-ordinate its policies more closely with organizations in the private sector, facilitate their entry into international activity, and deploy resources together to achieve maximum effectiveness.

V. Policy Making

Forum participants agreed that the first National Forum was a valuable experiment and an impressive beginning in opening up the policy process. The bringing together of people from different sectors who focussed on the co-ordination of policy objectives and the development of policy linkages was especially useful. Forum participants considered that sectoral discussions could not provide the same kind of opportunity to consider co-ordination, linkages, and the hard choices. Forum members emphasized, however, that much more needs to be done if Canada's foreign and defence policies are to be democratized, linked to the domestic agenda, and rooted in Canadian values and society. Four priorities were identified: co-ordination, accountability, public education, and the capacity for informed analysis of policy.

1. *Co-ordination.* Members of the Forum urged that foreign and defence policy be better integrated so that maximum efficiency and effectiveness can be achieved in Canada's international relations. Trade, defence, assistance, migration, environmental policies, the promotion of human rights, and participation in multilateral institutions must be co-ordinated.

Forum participants suggested that the Government put in place procedures to increase the flow of people and ideas between government departments and other groups in society so that policy is enriched, better co-ordinated, and better understood.

Forum members suggested that the Government actively promote co-operation among government, business, university, and non-governmental organizations. Such co-operation is important to the development of the knowledge-based products and services that are essential for Canada's active engagement in the global environment.