

**INTRODUCTION**

Environmental questions and the challenges they pose have become priority issues for many countries. Internationally, the environment is at the top of the multilateral agenda. Canada is an active participant on the international environment scene.

A growing number of international meetings are producing declarations on the global environment. In addition, there is a growing body of international agreements dealing with various components of the subject.

The Government of Canada has compiled this reference book for individuals interested in environmental issues and who wish access to basic documentation.

The book is divided into two sections. Major international environmental declarations are presented in the first section. The second contains a selection of multilateral environmental agreements of importance.

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