



Canadians can be proud of their country's role as a world leader in environmental protection. In line with the World Commission on Environment and Development (the Brundtland Commission), Canada firmly believes that lasting development must be based on respect for the environment.

Internationally, Canada is placing greater emphasis on projects that present no danger to the environment and is active in establishing legal bodies and mechanisms to guarantee the planet's ecological well-being.

International policy co-ordination on environmental issues is growing, and Canada is playing an important role. The nation is a signatory to such agreements as the Declaration of The Hague on the Protection of the Atmosphere (March 11, 1989), the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes (March 22, 1989), and the 1985 Helsinki Protocol to reduce sulphur pollution, among others. Canada actively participates in the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and fully supports the existing network of international institutions, including UNEP, the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), and the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)/International Energy Agency (IEA)'s energy-environment work. In addition, Canada has contributed significantly to the work of the Tropical Forestry Action Plan of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations.

International discussion on global environmental issues is increasingly being directed towards the important 1992 UN Conference on Environment and Development. Canada strongly supports the convening of the conference and will fully participate in its preparations.