

companies are engaged under the Trust Funds for short-term assignments usually ranging from thirty to sixty days.

### **The Canadian IFI Network**

General information and orientation regarding opportunities with the World Bank and other regional development banks can be obtained from a number of Canadian government sources. The International Trade Centres operated by the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (which are co-located with the regional offices of Industry Canada across the country) are a good preliminary source of information and intelligence. The Geographic and Sector Divisions at the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade in Ottawa are further valuable contact points.

The Government of Canada provides additional support through the Office of Liaison with International Financial Institutions (OLIFI) at the Canadian Embassy in Washington. The OLIFI staff can provide information, advice, and assistance to Canadian business people pursuing procurement opportunities with the World Bank and the Inter-American Development Bank. Canadian Embassies around the World are staffed by knowledgeable trade commissioners who can provide valuable guidance and local information. In addition, Canada has liaison officers in our Embassies located in the headquarter cities of the various regional development banks. OLIFI also works in close cooperation with the Canadian Executive Directors' office at the Banks, to fully protect and promote Canadian interests, and particularly to resolve any procurement or other commercial disputes that may arise.