

niently be referred to as the "ancillary roles" of S&T. By ancillary roles is meant the use of national S&T resources to achieve national goals other than those strictly related to domestic S&T programmes. The securing of S&T benefits will always be important but these constitute only one element - and often not a major one - of the particular package sought.

- The application of the S&T capabilities of the Federal government to the furtherance of major national goals in the international arena is no less valid than its use domestically to promote another major national goal - that of economic development. A necessary first step is, however, to obtain Cabinet agreement that the ancillary roles are the legitimate concern of the science-based departments.

General Bilateral Umbrella Agreements

9. The broad, unfocussed, "top down" approach used by Canada in the general bilateral umbrella agreements in S&T has been expensive in resources and disappointing in results. It has led to a general discrediting of this type of agreement.

- Thus in recent years, it has been Canadian policy neither to seek broad agreements nor to agree to proposals from other nations to enter into such agreements. What has been lacking however has been any broadly accepted policy in favour of the active pursuit of more focussed, and hence more practical, opportunities for collaborative activity.

10. One exception to the general rule is Canada's S&T relations with the United States. Bilateral connections at the institutional level are so extensive and valuable that their smooth functioning must continue to be an important element of government concern. The relationship is so intimate that policy changes by one government can well give rise to extensive impacts upon bilateral arrangements.

- It would therefore seem wise to initiate some regular policy discussions at Ministerial or high official level between Canada and the United States within the framework of a carefully defined bilateral agreement. Such discussions could also deal with major operational difficulties should these arise but should not be used for the exchange of routine proposals concerning specific bilateral projects.