

- Canada is also working with China's National Environmental Protection Agency in a number of areas, including water pollution, water basin management, hazardous and solid waste management, training and analysis of samples for toxic pollutants, and ozone depletion and the application of the Montreal Protocol.

Human Rights, Good Governance and the Rule of Law

- Respect for human rights and the rule of law in China is an essential Canadian objective. Canada believes China does not meet some of its international human rights obligations; and we are developing a constructive dialogue using bilateral and multilateral opportunities to raise Canada's concerns.
- Canada does not favour isolationism, believing that engagement and dialogue are most often the best approach. Canada believes that a China that is open to the world can better serve its people, both economically and politically, and can increase respect for human rights.
- Canada promotes the defence of fundamental human rights, as defined by the United Nations Universal Declaration on Human Rights, and encourages the reform of legal structures, good governance and the promotion of the rule of law.
- Frequent high-level contact with Chinese leaders over the past year has enabled Canada to raise its concerns; and Canadian officials will continue to hold frank and open discussions with Chinese authorities on human rights issues, such as our bilateral dialogue held in Beijing in January 1996.
- At the Commission on Human Rights in Geneva in 1995, Canada co-sponsored a draft resolution on human rights in China, expressing concern about continuing reports of violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms by local, provincial and national authorities as well as reports of severe restrictions on the rights of citizens to freedom of assembly, association, expression and religion, as well as rights to due legal process and to a fair trial.
- Development assistance is an important way of advancing human rights, democracy and good governance. Many Canadian projects are currently under way to encourage China to reform legal and judicial structures by increasing the transparency of legal processes and to adapt these structures to the new needs arising from economic reform. Specific projects include support for research on human rights, technical assistance on revising criminal procedures to better protect the rights of the accused, criminal law reform, and exchanges between lawyers. The new focus on human rights and democratic development in CIDA's