

- (ii) The development of Canada's growing economic relationship with Europe and Japan, with which I plan to associate closely the provincial governments;
- (iii) international education conferences; and the range of UNESCO related activities;
- (iv) the general conference of the International Labour Organization;
- (v) the continuing conference on the Law of the Sea;
- (vi) Habitat, the forthcoming U.N. Water Conference;
- (vii) bilateral cultural relations with France, Belgium, the USSR, Germany, and others.

Let me illustrate how the system works by focusing on one activity with which members of this Association are all familiar - the Law of the Sea Conference. From the beginning, the federal government took steps to ensure that the provinces were closely associated with the formulation of Canadian policy and Canadian participation at the Conference.

A series of federal/provincial consultations were held in advance of the first substantive session of the Conference to ensure broad understanding and support for Canadian policy objectives. All provinces were invited to designate representatives on the Canadian delegation. The Atlantic provinces, given their concern about the development of Canadian policies for offshore fishing and mineral development, were well represented and played a key part in the work of the delegation in the last four sessions of the Conference. I am convinced that the active participation of provincial advisers has been an essential factor in the pivotal role Canada has played at the Conference, particularly in the field of fisheries where a consensus has emerged in favour of coastal state sovereignty over marine living resources out to 200 miles. Preparations are now well underway for the next session of the Conference which convenes in New York in May, and I will once again be seeking a full complement of provincial advisers on our delegation.

In these ways, the Canadian Government helps advance specific provincial government interests. The weight and influence of the whole can be brought to bear in support of the legitimate interests of all governments in Canada.

A great deal has been accomplished in that area - it has not always been easy, often created tensions and was only realized as a result of tremendous effort on the part of all concerned. But it has been worth every bit of the