
THE PATH AHEAD

- The Government is committed to continuing a more consultative process with Canadians. We will:
 - conduct an annual National Forum on Canada's International Relations (the next to be held in Toronto this spring);
 - based on the model of our human rights and business consultations, take this process further by institutionalizing a new series of consultations with other Canadians interested in key international issues;
 - create a new mechanism within DFAIT for consultation, research and outreach;
 - expand Parliament's role by turning increasingly to the standing committees for foreign policy advice and continuing the practice of debates on major foreign policy issues; and
 - work closely with provincial and other levels of government on issues of interest to them, and draw more on expert opinion.
- The Government will take steps to make the Foreign Service better suited to the changing context, including increasing fiscal constraints. Innovative measures will be employed, such as using more technology to lower the costs of missions and make mini-missions viable, streamline administrative practices, co-locate missions, and deploy resources flexibly to assist international business promotion.
- To better manage the new challenges to international stability and security, the Government will:
 - improve coordination between DFAIT and CIDA, rationalizing operations where warranted; and
 - bring more coherence to the way in which we address global issues by establishing within DFAIT a Bureau for Global Issues, reporting to an Assistant Deputy Minister who will also be responsible for international cultural relations.