

Technology Policy continued to develop a consensus in various policy issues.

Bilateral science and technology collaboration

In keeping with previous decisions encouraging the more vigorous use of carefully chosen international collaboration in science and technology to enhance economic development goals, the Department was in the position of initiating and responding to foreign initiatives in a broad range of sectors with many countries. Active collaboration with Japan, the United Kingdom, West Germany, France and other industrialized countries was pursued. An exchange of letters was signed with Norway, which shares many common characteristics with Canada, especially in areas related to forestry, fishing, and Arctic research. Collaboration with the United States is extensive and mostly without formal government relationships.

The Technology Inflow Program

The Technology Inflow Program (TIP) was launched in January 1986 to assist Canadian small and medium-sized enterprises to acquire the foreign technology innovation they need to produce new or improved products processes or services. The goal is to increase the competitiveness of Canadian firms by ensuring that their products employ the latest in technology and are produced in the most efficient manner.

The two main elements of the program are: (a) TIP Post Services — specially-recruited staff at posts abroad who respond to requests from Canadian organizations to identify sources of new or emerging technologies, investigate opportunities for licensing or joint ventures, and arrange to bring together prospective partners; (b) TIP Fund — this provides financial support to defray the costs of exploratory or working visits abroad by Canadians, working visits by foreign experts to Canada, or the international costs of joint ventures or joint research and development projects. Support is primarily directed at small and medium-sized enterprises but can be provided to others if they can demonstrate that their projects have a direct bearing on the TIP objective described above.

The specialists at posts abroad include science and technology counsellors and technology development officers based at key posts in developed countries. The former perform a broad range of duties from reporting on scientific and technological developments in their host country to assisting industry in identifying opportunities for research and development collaboration. The latter are knowledgeable in the industrial sectors of the country where they are located and identify sources of technology specifically requested by Canadian companies.

During its first year of operation, TIP Post Services responded to over 500 requests for information on foreign technology. It is estimated that at least 100 of these requests will result in the transfer of foreign technology to Canada. During 1986-87, the TIP Fund (with a budget of \$1.2 million) received 176 requests for support of which 99 were funded. About 70 of these have resulted in a transfer of technology to Canada and at least 17 have so far resulted in a new or improved product or process.

Space and communications

Canada's involvement in these two technology-intensive sectors has inherent international dimensions. The Department is a member of the Interdepartmental Committee on Space and it contributed to the development of the Long Term Space Plan, unveiled in May 1986. Of particular importance have been both the continuing negotiation of bilateral arrangements with the United States concerning the terms of Canada's participation in the construction and use of the space station and discussions with the US concerning a joint project for a mobile communications satellite. The pursuit of key interests in the areas of remote sensing, telecommunications and satellite-aided research and rescue were also advanced in various bilateral and multilateral negotiations. Canadian initiatives at the UN Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space resulted in the adoption of internationally agreed principles on the use of nuclear power sources in space. Following up the ministerial meeting of the OECD, chaired by the Secretary of State for External Affairs, the private sector was informed of the Guidelines on the Protection of Privacy and Transborder Flows of Personal Data and voluntary support was sought to implement them in a manner that would be economically and socially beneficial to all Canadians. New work on trade in services undertaken by the OECD Committee on Information, Computer and Communications Policy is a focus of widespread interest. An important and sensitive ITU World Administrative Radio Conference on High Frequency (shortwave) Broadcasting for the allocation of radio spectrum was successfully concluded.

Transportation

The busy pace of bilateral civil aviation negotiations continued during the year under review. Canadian international air services were enhanced by the signing of a new agreement with Brazil. Amendments to existing agreements with Israel and India were signed by the Secretary of State for External Affairs during visits to those countries. New *ad referendum* agreements were successfully negotiated with Portugal, Spain, the Dominican Republic, India, Czechoslovakia, Egypt and Thailand. Rounds of negotiations were also held with the United Kingdom, Singapore, Venezuela, Jamaica and the European Civil Aviation Conference. Informal consultations on air relations were also held with the United States, France and New Zealand.

Canada continued to press for the inclusion of improved aviation security provisions in all bilateral agreements during negotiations held in the year under review, and an agreement on aviation security was concluded with the United States. Canada also continued to promote a number of proposals before the International Civil Aviation Organization aimed at strengthening multilateral aviation security agreements.

The Department participated in the multilateral maritime activities of the OECD and UNCTAD, emphasizing the importance of exporters' concerns in the discussion and development of international shipping policies. In particular, during the biennial UNCTAD meeting of the Committee on Shipping, Canada, with like-minded