

In the process of carrying out our new mandate, we are asking all federal government departments and agencies to up-date the information contained in their first response. This exercise will provide a basis of comparison enabling us to detect the most interesting developments which have occurred during the last seven years. We do not intend, during our second inquiry, to hear all government departments and agencies and to publish all their briefs but we will be glad to make them available to you so as to enable your Ministry to make its own assessment of recent trends.

Although our new mandate is very broad, our report to the Senate clearly indicates three specific areas which have a special interest to us.

1. With regard to futures studies, you will receive shortly another letter and a questionnaire. In your response, we would like you to indicate not only your own activities in this area but also the role that the Ministry plays or intends to play in the assessment and co-ordination of futures research carried out by other government departments and agencies.

2. The Committee, in its report on science policy, has made more than 80 specific recommendations and many other suggestions. In its role as the main central agency for science policy, your Ministry has undoubtedly been involved in the government reaction and response to these proposals. We would like to know what are those which have been rejected and why, and what are those which have been accepted and how they have been implemented.

3. More specifically, the Committee proposed in Chapter 19, Volume 3 of its report the adoption by the Canadian Government of the basic features of the concerted action model for the organization of its scientific activities. We would like to know what has been the Ministry's reaction to that proposal.

In Chapter 20, the Committee made a number of recommendations and suggestions regarding the role of MOSST; they were designed to implement the concerted action model. We would like to know what happened to these proposals.