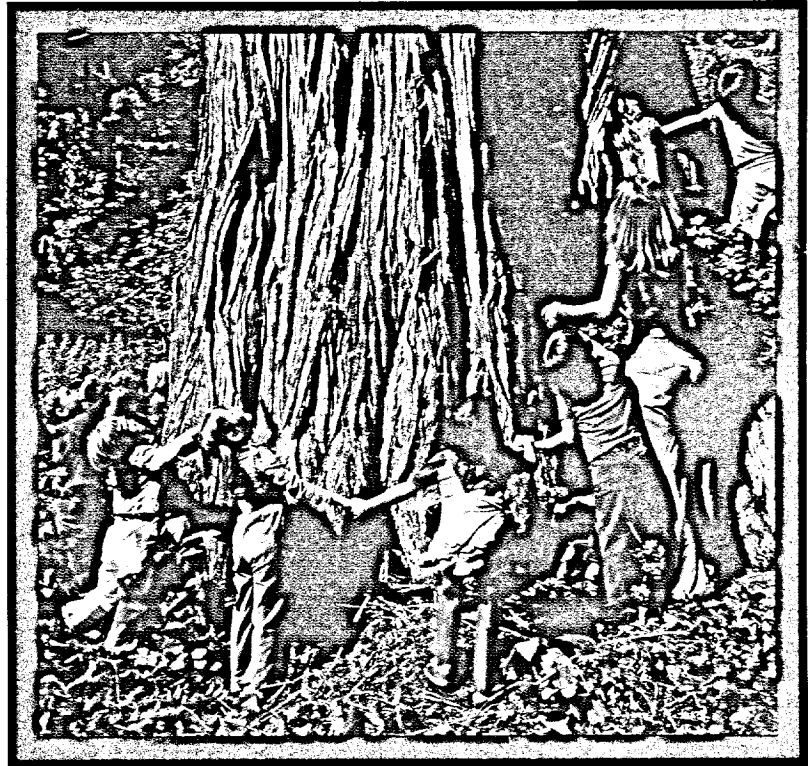


THE ENVIRONMENT: A CORNERSTONE OF OUR FOREIGN POLICY



In developing Canada's international environmental policy, departments and agencies within the federal government collaborate with their provincial and territorial partners. At the federal level, External Affairs and International Trade Canada plays a leading role, along with Environment Canada and the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), in forging a Canadian strategy on the global environment.

Canada is the only country that belongs to all three of the Group of Seven industrial democracies, the Commonwealth and La Francophonie. It was a founding member of the United Nations and is a strong supporter of the UN system. In all of these forums and elsewhere on the international stage, Canada is working with other countries to protect the world environment in ways that ensure continued domestic and global economic development.

This has been our approach since 1972, when the world's first major international conference on the environment was held in Stockholm. Canada played an important role in the conference, with a Canadian, Maurice Strong, serving as Secretary-General. Twenty years later, Canada is once