

INTRODUCTION.

1. Senator Lamontagne in his letter of September 17, 1975, inviting the presentation by MOSST of a brief to the Committee, made specific reference to the role of MOSST as the main central agency for science policy and its involvement in the government's response to the Senate Committee's proposals. The Ministry is anxious to assist the Senators in every way possible and in preparing this document we have aimed at three specific objectives: to present a clear picture of the developments in federal science policy and organization that have taken place since the establishment of the Ministry; to explain how the Ministry's role and procedures have developed and, in meeting these two objectives, to identify as far as possible the extent to which the recommendations and suggestions of the Senators have been followed. Many of the recommendations were of a nature that called for a response from the government as a whole rather than the Science Ministry. For this reason, it has seemed appropriate that the Minister should himself respond to the Committee since he is in the position to speak for the Government regarding matters of organization and broad policy.

A. BACKGROUND.

2. The Senate Committee's examination of Canada's policies, practices and organization in science has undoubtedly constituted a major landmark in the history of science. It has been recognized internationally as probably the most complete and searching examination of its type made anywhere in the world and the three volume report of the Committee has been read with deep interest throughout the scientific community.

3. The Committee's report has been and continues to be required reading for all those in government who are involved in the development of science policy and organization, and the Committee's