

## 12. CONCLUSION

Looking ahead is both fascinating and dangerous for the same reason – simply considering, discussing and proposing options influences the very future at which you are looking. The impact of the discussions at and proposals from the 2000 Canadian Council on International Law Conference can best be assessed in twenty years. Fortunately a high proportion of participants in 2000 were students or young academics and practitioners who will likely attend the 2020 Canadian Council on International Law Conference (or as one panel might have suggested be participating via interactive electronic media) where they will be in an excellent position to make such an assessment.

Interesting and practical policy options were presented by many speakers ranging from developing courses and training for future ICC staff to supporting projects looking at the impact of women and other less traditional players participating in national delegations during international negotiations. Other policy options suggested a project promoting interpretive harmonization between international environmental and international trade law; the development of improved communication mechanisms available outside of Canada to ensure refugees are correctly identified; and taking a leadership role in harmonizing national/international copyright laws as they apply to the Internet.

Any of these policy options may be followed up in panels during the 2001 Canadian Council on International Law Annual Conference – it is certain that other areas of developing international law will be considered, discussed and policy options recommended during that conference.