

environmental science and technology, collecting data and reporting on the state of the environment, and increasing public awareness on environmental issues. As well, the NACE would co-operate with the free trade commission to achieve the environmental goals of the NAFTA."

Canada's position on the environmental negotiations is being developed in close co-operation with the provinces and non-government representatives, including environmentalists and the private sector.

In the negotiations for an additional agreement on labour, Mr. Wilson said Canada will seek to give effect to the commitments in the NAFTA preamble to "improve working conditions and living standards" in all three countries, and to "protect, enhance and enforce basic workers' rights."

Canada will advocate setting up a trinational body to carry out these objectives over time, Mr. Wilson added.

"We still believe that a trilateral working group or commission to review the issues and make recommendations to governments could be an important element of such an agreement," he said. "But we want to look carefully at other possible elements, such as the development of a set of common principles."

Noting that most of the labour force in Canada is under provincial jurisdiction, Mr. Wilson said: "The Government has already opened discussions with the provinces concerning the possible agreement on labour, and we expect to work closely with them as the negotiations proceed. We will also pursue consultations with labour and business representatives throughout these talks."

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