

FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND INTERNATIONAL TRADE

INTRODUCTION

The Department's legal mandate and mission statement guide its key priorities, which were defined in the Government's Foreign Policy Statement of February 1995, entitled *Canada in the World*.

LEGAL MANDATE

The Department's legal mandate is explicitly defined and enunciated in Sections 10 and 12 of the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade Act. It may be summarized as:

the conduct of Canada's international relations;
the promotion of international trade; and,
the provision of assistance to Canadians abroad.

MISSION STATEMENT

The Department's current mandate is reflected in the following Mission Statement.

To act for Canada and all Canadians to enhance prosperity, employment and security and work toward a peaceful world by the promotion of Canadian culture and values.

This mission statement is contained in the 1997-1998 Main Estimates approved by the Treasury Board and tabled in Parliament in February 1997.

POLICY PRIORITIES

The strategic policy priorities were defined in *Canada in the World*, and further amplified in the February 1995 Speech From The Throne as the following three key objectives:

The promotion of prosperity and employment and a sharing economy that supports job creation in Canada through trade and investment and that fosters and encourages the application and use of science and technology;

The protection of our security, within a stable global framework, including international security for Canada and Canadians from threats abroad as well as environmental security; and

The projection of Canadian values and culture and the projection of a modern and united Canada reflected in the advocacy of key Canadian values, including human rights, children's rights and a strengthened francophonie abroad.

