

Understanding on Joint Meteorological Program and Atmospheric and Climate Research; a Memorandum of Understanding on Scientific Cooperation in

the Area of Water Ecosystem Research; and an Agreement on Environmental Cooperation with Mexico.

F. CRIMINAL LAW

With continual increase in international criminal activities, countries must improve present areas of cooperation in fighting crime, and in initiating new forms of cooperation. To this end, Canada is negotiating a network of mutual legal assistance treaties with other countries. Such treaties have been signed with the Bahamas and France.

Canada is also making a concerted effort to update old extradition treaties and negotiate new ones with priority countries. Extradition treaties have been signed with Spain, the Philippines and the Netherlands.

In addition, previously negotiated mutual legal assistance treaties with the United States and Australia, and an extradition treaty with France, came into force in the past year.

The ongoing battle against the drug trade included specific international action in the past year. Memoranda of Understanding on combatting drugs were signed with Mexico and the U.S.S.R. to create the framework for extensive cooperation on drug-related issues.

Another area of grave concern internationally is money laundering. Canada took part in the Economic Summit Countries' discussions on money laundering and this will be reflected in Canada's response to the problem.

A concerted effort is being made to increase customs cooperation on a treaty basis with a number of countries. One such treaty was signed with Mexico.

G. PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES

Immunities of diplomatic and consular personnel are necessary to ensure that the authorities of a receiving state cannot unduly influence the representatives of other states. The Legal Affairs Bureau ensures that these

immunities are not abused. This is done by advising EAITC and other Departments as to the limits of the immunities of foreign diplomatic and consular representatives in Canada.