

within a human rights framework was part of the Canadian position taken during the development of the Standard Rules for the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities drafted in 1993 at the end of the Decade for Disabled Persons.

The Canadian government continued to locate disability within human rights in its negotiations at the Beijing Women's Conference in 1995, the Habitat Conference in 1996 (DFAIT 1999) and in several of the five year follow-up conferences in the late 1990s. These included the Human Rights +5 conference (Hynes 1999; Axworthy 1998), and the Population and Development +5 conference (DFAIT 2001b). Ironically, at the Social Summit in 1995, and its follow-up +5 conference (both of which dealt with social policies where disability is often located), Canadian delegates did very little to promote disability rights.

Canadian delegates have been very involved as well in the negotiations leading towards the Organization of American States' Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Persons with Disabilities adopted in 1999. Unfortunately, this work has failed yet to be translated into a signature or ratification of this treaty by Canada.

In a policy paper prepared by the Canadian Association for Community Living (CACL) for the Canadian Centre for Foreign Policy Development, the authors argue that the federal government should establish a framework and build a capacity for the inclusion of disability in foreign policy. They suggest that such a framework use the inclusion of disability as a basis for human rights in the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms and should be extended to the foreign policy arena. In addition, they outline two purposes of a disability human rights strategy.

First, an effort to coordinate Canadian efforts on the issue of disability would take advantage of Canada's reputation as a leader on the issue and would advance the situation