

Canada could contribute to resolving the global water problems. She pointed out that Canada has a wealth of experience and expertise in water-related issues including: 1) institutional arrangements for shared water management, 2) science/monitoring, and 3) capacity building. Areas that required some policy attention were: building a coherent network of "water players," building international capacity, as well as promoting opportunities for Canadian business and technology transfers.

Moore argued that there is a need to move beyond strategising towards implementing practical and pragmatic solutions. She pointed out that there exists currently room to address water related issues since the key players perceive a clean environment as a necessary condition for human security. There are 44 countries globally with 80% of their total areas within international basins. As well, there are more than 300 internationally shared basins. This situation should contribute to the development of an international cohesive water management strategy aimed at averting conflict.

She also brought up the issue of water export gaining momentum and the mixed record Canada has had in terms of fresh water management. Canada is the 2nd highest per capita user of fresh water in the world. Pollution in Canada continues to remain a threat to human health. Toxic substances and acid rain continue to damage Canadian ecosystems.

Following Jennifer Moore's presentation, **Richard Denham** of RV Anderson Associates addressed *Water Management Issues*. He argued that a water conflict resolution strategy could be conceptualised on a "sustainability continuum" in three categories (attached). Variables include a time horizon and methods of intervention. Positioned at the beginning of the continuum, relief efforts fall into the first category. They entail the provision of short term assistance in response to a sudden disaster and are mostly reactive. Moving along the continuum, the second category includes technical solutions that are capital intensive and rarely result in long term solutions. The last category involves conflict resolution and prevention and is the key to any sustainable solution. It is within this last category that Canada should develop a role as a skilled non-threatening facilitator in water-related disputes. He concluded by saying that the human security aspect can be dealt with only through facilitation efforts.

The next speaker, **Stephen Owen**, Director of the Centre for Dispute Resolution at the University of Victoria, addressed on water-related conflict resolution. At the outset of his presentation he pointed out that not all relationships involving water-sharing are negative and hostile. Any conflict resolution effort should tap the positive elements. Canada may contribute to the world water strategy through its own expertise with water use, land use, as well as by looking at the approach of its own aboriginal peoples to water management. He strongly stressed the necessity of collaboration among involved parties since most water disputes are 1) competing, 2) legitimate, and 3) interdependent. In some cases the range of issues in negotiations must be broadened so that all parties are able to "walk away with something." Decisions must be collective and include the public for any resolution to be sustainable. The up-stream/down-stream dichotomy does not hold since water problems are inter-related (i.e., fish may swim upstream). He further cautioned against the danger of imposing Canadian or western resolution methods on people who would otherwise approach water-related issues and disputes/conflicts