

firm their continuing commitment to the objectives of the agreement and respond to various proposals to strengthen the agreement to meet new issues on water quality.

President Carter and Prime Minister Trudeau emphasized the importance of the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement at their meeting last February.

Canada signs agreement with European space agency

The Canada Centre for Remote Sensing, a branch of the Department of Energy, Mines and Resources, and the European Space Agency signed a five-year arrangement in Paris recently for co-operation in remote sensing for peaceful purposes.

Member countries of the European Space Agency are Belgium, Britain, Denmark, France, Italy, the Netherlands, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and West Germany.

Under the arrangement, Canada and the space agency will co-operate in: identifying goals for remote-sensing programs; developing, testing and using microwave remote-sensing systems; improving reception, processing, distribution and storage of satellite data; and studying possible uses of Spacelab.

The Canada Centre for Remote Sensing gathers information about the ground (crops, rivers, soil, pollution, mapmaking, etc.) from satellites and planes. Since it was established in 1971, the centre has become a clearing house for scientific information on almost every region of Canada.

The Canada Centre for Remote Sensing has sent representatives to meetings of the European Space Agency and will continue to do so.

New rules for hiring foreign teachers

Changes in immigration procedures affecting the hiring of foreign academics have been announced by Manpower and Immigration Minister Bud Cullen.

As of April 15, persons seeking to come to Canada to take appointments at post secondary institutions, either permanently or temporarily, must have an approved job offer in addition to

meeting the usual immigration requirements. Institutions seeking to hire foreign teachers will also be obliged to demonstrate that the positions they intend to offer to persons who are not Canadian citizens or permanent residents of Canada are widely advertised in Canada. Exemption from this requirement will be made in the case of exchange program participants and guest lecturers.

"Until now, these institutions, unlike other Canadian employers, could recruit abroad without reference to the availability of Canadians and landed immigrants," said Mr. Cullen. "This situation is no longer justified given the fact that the number of qualified candidates in Canada for these positions is now in excess of demand in many disciplines."

The new measures had been discussed with provincial ministers, as well as the Council of Ministers of Education.

"I wish to make clear," Mr. Cullen said, "that these measures will in no way interfere with the hiring of candidates on the basis of merit. It will remain entirely up to the universities to judge what candidates are best qualified to fill the academic jobs they are offering."

"However, in view of the large numbers of post-graduates leaving our universities each year, it is only fair to require universities, before they resort to foreign recruitment, to ascertain whether qualified candidates are available on the Canadian market."

ICNAF preparatory meeting agrees to negotiate new pact

The International Preparatory Conference on Future Multilateral Co-operation in the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries, convened at Canada's invitation at External Affairs headquarters in Ottawa from March 14 to 24, agreed that a further short meeting be held at Ottawa in June and recommended that a diplomatic conference to negotiate a proposed new convention be held in October 1977.

The conference was attended by delegates from Bulgaria, Canada, Cuba, German Democratic Republic, Iceland, Japan, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Spain, the Soviet Union, the

United States, and the European Economic Community with its member states parties to the ICNAF Convention (Denmark, France, Federal Republic of Germany, Italy and Britain). The International Commission for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries (ICNAF) was also represented. Dr. A.W.H. Needler of Canada was elected chairman, with Dr. D. Booss of the Federal Republic of Germany and Mr. A. Volkov of the U.S.S.R. as vice-chairmen.

Delegates discussed possible terms of a convention to establish an organization for future multilateral co-operation in the Northwest Atlantic fisheries, taking into account recent jurisdictional developments in this region. It was generally agreed that appropriate provision should be made for such co-operation.

Manitoba hydro transmission gets federal loans

Manitoba Premier Ed Schreyer announced recently that a Canada-Manitoba agreement had been signed under which Ottawa would provide up to \$193.2 million in loans for expanded transmission facilities from Nelson River hydro plants.

The \$193.2 million, which will be in long-term, 30-year loans, represents 50 per cent of the cost of the additional transmission facilities. When these facilities are completed in 1984, the direct-current transmission system from the Nelson to Winnipeg will have a capacity of 3,240 megawatts.

Premier Schreyer explained that the agreement was essentially an extension of the original 1966 undertaking in which Ottawa, through Atomic Energy of Canada Limited, agreed to construct and sell to Manitoba Hydro a 560-mile-long, twin-tower direct current line, with capacity of 800 megawatts. This involved a \$244-million loan, being repaid by Manitoba Hydro over 50 years.

Since that time, Manitoba Hydro has been gradually increasing the transmission capacity to 1,350 megawatts. This will be expanded a further 2.5 times to 3,240 megawatts, in time to handle the combined generation of the Kettle, Long Spruce and Limestone generating stations on the Lower Nelson.