

Canada's actions over the past few years have been directed at preparing the way for the future development of the Arctic; ensuring that these developments will take place with due regard to Canadian sovereignty and security; providing a framework which will permit economic development and maintain the social viability of traditional cultures; and, last but not least, ensuring that these activities take place in an environment protected against pollution and destruction. In this challenging endeavor, Canada will be seeking solutions to the many difficult problems in cooperation with all Arctic countries, and in particular with our closest Arctic neighbour, the United States.