

Glossary

Africa Action Plan: The G8 Africa Action Plan was developed in 2002 in response to the priorities set out in the New Partnership for Africa's Development, a made-in-Africa plan to lift the continent out of poverty. (See: http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/africa/africa_action_plan-en.asp)

Agenda 21: The blueprint that was agreed upon at the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro in 1992 to promote socially, economically, and environmentally sustainable development.

Arctic Council: The Arctic Council, a high level intergovernmental forum, was established in 1996 in Canada to provide a mechanism to address the common concerns and challenges faced by Arctic governments and people of the Arctic. (See: <http://www.arctic-council.org/index.html>)

Bahia Declaration: Intergovernmental Forum on Chemical Safety (IFCS), Salvador, Bahia, Brazil, October 15-20, 2000. Countries reaffirmed a commitment to the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development and recommitted to *Agenda 21*, Chapter 19. (See: <http://www.who.int/ifcs/Documents/Forum/ForumIII/>)

Climate Change: A warming of the Earth's atmosphere caused by increases of certain gases that absorb the radiation emitted by the Earth, thereby retarding the loss of energy from the system to space.

Commissioner of the Environment and Sustainable Development: The Commissioner's mandate is to assist in carrying out duties related to the environment and sustainable development; report annually to the House of Commons on environmental aspects of sustainable development; and monitor and report on the degree to which departments are meeting their sustainable

development goals. (See: <http://www.oag-bvg.gc.ca/domino/oag-bvg.nsf/html/environment.html>)

Corporate Social Responsibility: Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) generally refers to the operation of a business in a manner that meets the ethical, legal, commercial and/or public expectations that society has of business in complex areas, such as safeguarding the core labour rights of workers, protecting the environment, avoiding bribery and corruption and contributing to respect for human rights.

Departmental Performance Report: In 1996, Part III of the Main Estimates was split into two reports: Departmental Performance Reports (DPRs) tabled in the fall and Reports on Plans and Priorities in the spring. DPRs present information on past performance and help parliamentarians assess departmental plans and priorities for upcoming fiscal years. (See http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/department/pr_2003/rpp-en.asp#secl)

DFAIT's Strategic Priorities: The Strategic Priorities guide the Department's actions and policies. (See: <http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/department/mandate/sppf-en.asp>)

Doha Declaration: The November 2001 Declaration of the Fourth Ministerial Conference in Doha, Qatar, provided the mandate for negotiations on a range of subjects, and other work including issues concerning the implementation of present WTO agreements. (See: http://www.wto.org/english/thewto_e/minist_e/min01_e/mindecl_e.htm)

Environmental Assessment: EA is an established tool to help decision makers consider the environmental effects of proposed projects.