Our World Goes Online

he enthusiastic response that first greeted *Our World* and the keen interest that has ensued have been both encouraging—to put it mildly—and a bit challenging. Much as we are delighted by the many story ideas and articles that we are receiving, we simply cannot accommodate them all. But we think we have found a compromise.

Our World is now online. We will still print hard copies of the magazine every three months to accommodate the many employees who want to read it while travelling, commuting, or to share with their families. But in July we also launched Our World Online, an electronic version on the DFAIT intranet that will feature all the articles from the printed copy as well as a few extras.

When we asked what employees miss most about Our World's predecessor Panorama, the

overwhelming response was the "comings and goings" section. Given their proclivity for moving to other missions or departments, employees would understandably want to keep tabs on their colleagues over the years. While it would be too onerous to have this feature in the print edition, we are pleased to include it in *Our World* Online, under the Online Only button. Stories that don't fit into the print edition for one reason or another will find themselves in the Online Only section. We expect to post two to four new feature stories and/or news items each month. Everything in this section will be updated and highlighted every month.



This is not only a response to our deputy ministers, who are beckoning a new generation and its practices, but more simply, the recognition of a welcome opportunity to maximize new and exciting tools that will, hopefully, entice every DFAIT employee.



You will also find the more popular sections of the magazine further highlighted online, including the Featured Mission, which will be archived. Previous editions of the magazine will also be archived. The site will feature a few blogs relevant to the content of the magazine. In addition, you will find an expanded travel section, as well as some key information on the publication, including how to submit ideas and stories.

We are not only publishing stories about DFAIT and its employees, we are regularly inspired by them. One might say that we have been "transformed." Since the department has promised to embrace new and bold technology as well as social networking tools (see Departmental News on p. 18), we are doing our part. *Our World* Online is the magazine's answer.

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We encourage you to vist *Our World* Online at http: intranet.dfait_maeci.gc.ca/ourworld.menu-en.asp and to continue to submit your stories. All contributions to the comings and goings section are voluntary, so we appreciate the information.