

North Pacific, including strict controls on Japanese salmon fishing. Also, working closely with the United States, Canada made efforts to curb the illegal

fishing and marketing of high seas salmon and sought the cooperation of Southeast Asian countries to help end this "salmon laundering."

H. RESOURCE AND COMMODITY TRADE POLICY

Canada is firmly committed to responsible management of international commodity bodies and plays an active role in a number of them. In particular, Canada coordinated the successful out-of-court settlement of debts/litigation of the International Tin Council (ITC), with the Department playing a leading role. The amount of £182.5 million was paid to creditors on March 30, 1990, by the ITC.

The Division continues to be involved in drafting financial rules for the Common Fund for Commodities and, as well, has been instrumental in inaugurating the International Nickel Study Group in June 1990, after several years of effort.

Studies initiated by the Division at the request of Mr. Clark have reaffirmed the importance of certain essential mineral imports to Canadian industry. Canada relies heavily on South African supplies of ferrochrome, vanadium, manganese and platinum, and lacks alternative sources for these minerals.

A study was also completed on Canada's sulphur export trade with Southern Africa.

Canada has raised objections to proposed European Community kiln-drying regulations that threaten Canada's softwood lumber trade with the EC. Regulations are being developed in an effort to combat the perceived threat from pinewood nematode. Maritime and BC lumber exporters could be seriously affected if the regulations are introduced as proposed.

New environmental initiatives and regulations being implemented by governments in Canada and abroad will likely place new constraints on Canada's forestry, minerals and metals trade in the coming years.

The Government of Canada has been supporting the adoption of the International Labour Organization's Convention on the Safe Use of Asbestos and the promotion of the safe use of asbestos abroad by the Asbestos Institute.