

There is still a great deal to be learned about the economy-environment interactions implicit in sustainable development, but some points are clear. For one thing, it involves an ongoing balance of human harvesting of nature, such as we have had for centuries in the Canadian trapping industry. For another, it involves strategic preservation - choosing unique sites such as the South Moresby Islands, and giving them appropriate protection. It involves anticipating and preventing disasters, rather than reacting after the event.

We are seeking to apply the principles of sustainable development to Canadian policy, at home and internationally.

We adopted last year a new water policy which provides a framework to manage the essential resource in an environmentally sound manner.

We recognize the value of preserving significant wilderness areas so have created five new national parks in the past four years - Ellesmere Island, Bruce Peninsula, Pacific Rim, South Moresby and Grasslands.

The National Roundtable on Environment and Economy, brings together leaders from the business, labour, academic and environmental communities to advise on how best to integrate environmental concerns into economic decision-making. It will present annual progress reports to the Council of First Ministers.

The new federal Environmental Protection Act has guaranteed individual Canadians a role in decision-making affecting our environment.

More than \$900 million a year of CIDA's program is allocated to projects designed to improve the management of renewable and nonrenewable resources in developing countries.

We will continue to press multilateral development banks to devote more attention to environmental concerns in the design and implementation of projects. Last year, we proposed that the World Bank should make more information available about the environmental impact of its activities; develop criteria for its lending where it affects such vital resources as rainforests; and promote innovative ways to finance conservation in the Third World.

Last June Toronto hosted a World Conference on the Changing Atmosphere. The work begun there is now being pursued through the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change under the auspices of the World Meteorological Organization and UNEP. A follow-up world conference on this issue will be held next year.