

With the signing of an air agreement with Haiti, Air Canada started operating to Port-au-Prince in the autumn. Two rounds of negotiations with Barbados produced the terms of a new interim air agreement. Negotiating rounds were also held with the Scandinavian countries, Portugal and Britain. In the second half of the year, British efforts to move Air Canada from Heathrow Airport to Gatwick Airport were resisted with the support of Canada's High Commission in London. Bilateral air agreements are currently in force with more than thirty countries.

Transportation

Developments in world shipping, the evolving transportation policies of Canada's main trading partners and the impact of technological change continued to call for the exchange of technical data and the promotion of Canada's interests in international forums. Hence its continued participation in the work, *inter alia*, of the OECD Maritime Transport Committee and its subsidiaries, the UNCTAD Committee on Shipping and related institutions, and the Inland Transport Committee of the Economic Commission for Europe. Issues of bilateral transportation continued to be dealt with through the services of Canadian missions. Trends in international shipping resulted in a new Canadian shipping policy, which in turn had implications for Canada's international relations. At the same time, the nation's stake in the technological and regulatory conditions of air and maritime transport, in particular the development of internationally-accepted standards of facilitation and safety, continued to motivate Canada's participation in the work of the International Civil Aviation Organization in Montreal and the Intergovernmental Maritime Consultative Organization (IMCO) in London. In the context of marine pollution prevention, two international conferences were held under IMCO auspices and in which Canada played an active part. These conferences provided additional protocols to the 1974 Convention on Safety of Life at Sea and the 1973 Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, as well as a Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers. Progress was also made during the year towards an international convention on multimodal transport.

Space and telecommunications

Canada was actively involved in the work of the UN Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (particularly the establishment of a group of experts on the use of nuclear power sources in space), in the preliminary discussions concerning the holding of a second UN Conference on Outer Space and in debate concerning various remote-sensing issues.

In December, Canada became a co-operative member of the European Space Agency (ESA). This new and upgraded status (from that of observer) will provide the opportunity for participation in ESA's programs and projects on both scientific and industrial levels.