

Geographic branches

The five geographic branches of the Department manage and co-ordinate the full range of Canadian relations with and activities in the five main regions of the world — Africa and Middle East, Asia and Pacific, Europe, Latin America and Caribbean and United States. The ADMs supervising them advise the Deputy Minister, International Trade, on all economic and trade matters within their regions. They advise the Deputy Minister (Political Affairs) on all other matters regarding Canadian policies and programs in their regions. And they ensure that the units within the geographic branches co-ordinate their activities with the appropriate units of the functional branches.

Within each of these five branches are two or more bureaux, themselves structured on a geographic, i.e. regional, basis. In most cases a bureau includes: a *trade development division*, which provides an identifiable point of access for the business community; a *relations division*, handling political, economic and trade relations; a *programs division*, handling immigration, public and cultural affairs programs and visits to or from the region; and an *area management office*, dealing with resource planning and utilization both at headquarters and at posts in the bureau's region abroad. Generally speaking, it is at the *bureau* level that fusion of previously separate departmental components — political, trade, immigration, cultural affairs — takes place.

Functional branches

Four functional branches, each supervised by an ADM, have responsibility for world-wide activities and co-ordination in their respective fields. The International Trade Development branch and the Economic and Trade Policy branch have general responsibility for the Department's global economic and trade policy matters, and the co-ordination of market development activities. The Political and International Security Affairs branch has responsibility for multilateral activities and institutions: the United Nations and its Specialized Agencies and the Commonwealth; and for defence relations, disarmament and other international security questions. Its ADM serves as interlocutor with the political directors of other foreign ministries on questions of global political interest. The Social Affairs and Programs branch deals with policy development and inter-regional co-ordination in immigration and consular activities, social policy and programs, and public affairs programs and operations, including cultural and academic relations, domestic information, information activities abroad and central creative services.