

I. THE CHALLENGES

Both Canadian and Japanese participants clearly identified six important areas which they felt must be considered as part of any attempt to affect a comprehensive, global environmental strategy. The next few pages identify and briefly describe these areas.

1. ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

As a result of increasing public awareness of ozone depletion, global warming, and acid rain, emission levels of CO₂, Nitrous Oxides (NO_x), and Sulphurous Oxides (SO_x) have become the subject of much discussion, both in Canada and around the world. Addressing the issues associated with these emissions must involve: an evaluation of the criterion used to establish acceptable emission levels, the creation of new emission control mechanisms, and a review of the cost and availability of these processes. It is apparent that the developed world, if it hopes to have a significant impact on issues such as global warming, can do so only in cooperation with the developing world. However, economic growth in many developing countries is

based on industrial activity often driven by equipment producing high levels of CO₂. (see chart on following page)

2. NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Deforestation, the loss of biodiversity, and threatened marine resources are increasingly being viewed, particularly in the developed world, as issues requiring serious attention. Dealing with these issues will require the greatest level of international cooperation. It was concluded by the workshop participants that it may become necessary to look seriously at the manner in which economic growth is encouraged, perhaps through the policies of the World Bank and the IMF. For their part, many developed countries have started to look at innovative political solutions to problems, such as debt for nature swaps, green loans, and technology transfer to complement research on purely technical innovation. Resource management, incidently, is an area that was identified by Japanese participants as one in which they could benefit from Canadian expertise.