

Treaty which has improved the sustainable management of salmon on the West Coast of Canada and the United States. Commercial relations have been advanced through the Exchange of Notes with the USA on March 31, 1999 (in force the same date) further to the *Columbia River Treaty* permitting the disposal of the Canadian Entitlement to certain hydro-electric power under this treaty in the United States. Also noteworthy in this regard was the Exchange of Notes of August 26, 1999 (in force the same date) amending the *Softwood Lumber Agreement*. Commercial-cultural relations were enhanced with the Exchange of Notes of June 3, 1999 (in force the same date) constituting an *Agreement concerning the Canadian Periodical Advertising Services Market*.

3. OTHER TREATY ACTIVITIES

The treaty section has continued to provide Depositary services with respect to six multilateral treaties (UNIDROIT Factoring, UNIDROIT Leasing, NAFO, Open Skies, PICES, the *Agreement to Ban Smoking on International Passenger Flights*). We have registered 107 treaties with the United Nations under section 102 of the United Nations Charter, which allows parties to treaties that have been so registered to invoke them before any organ of the UN. Ninety-two treaties have been printed in the Canada Treaty Series and distributed.

Providing information services with respect to treaties has formed a large part of our work, peaking at about 300 requests per month during our busiest months. To improve informational services, the section has developed an electronic data base to accommodate the total treaty collection (over 3,000 active and that many inactive treaties). The long process of inputting and verifying data has been commenced and is proceeding well. When completed, a summary version of our database will be placed on the departmental Website. There are also plans to place copies of our treaties in force on the Website when the electronic data base is launched. The first 430 of our treaties have now been scanned.