

GROUP OF 24 (G-24)

At the 1989 Paris Economic Summit, G-7 leaders decided to extend economic assistance to Poland and Hungary. They asked the Commission of the European Communities to co-ordinate this assistance. The commission responded by inviting 24 countries, all of them OECD members, to exchange information, establish priorities and review progress. Chaired by the EC, this group meets in Brussels and calls itself the G-24. It is also extending co-ordinated economic assistance to the Czech Republic, the Slovak Republic, Bulgaria, Romania, Albania, Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia and Slovenia. The mandate of the G-24 does not extend to the countries of the former Soviet Union, except on the issue of nuclear safety.

INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY (IAEA)

The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) was founded in 1957. Headquartered in Vienna, it is concerned with technical co-operation on a range of nuclear issues, including nuclear power, nuclear safety, radiation protection, waste management and non-nuclear power applications. In addition, it has established a program of on-site inspections, audits and inventory controls, known collectively as "safeguards," to deter countries from diverting nuclear materials from peaceful to military use. Attempts by some adherents to the Non-Proliferation Treaty, notably Iraq and North Korea, to develop clandestine nuclear weapons programs have led many of the 118 IAEA member states to conclude that their safeguards need to be strengthened.

INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION (IDA)

The International Development Association (IDA) is the concessional financing arm of the World Bank. IDA loans are concentrated in poor developing countries and are issued at no interest, with long grace and repayment periods. The IDA obtains its funding mainly from voluntary contributions by donor countries. Replenishments are arranged every three years through negotiations among the IDA's donors. Negotiations on the

10th replenishment were completed in December 1992.

Canada, the seventh largest contributor, committed \$829 million over eight years, beginning in 1994-95, to the 10th replenishment.

INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) was established in 1945 to promote international monetary co-operation and international trade by enhancing the openness and stability of the international payments system. The IMF provides financing to member countries in balance-of-payments difficulties and helps them improve their economic management. It also oversees the functioning of the international monetary system.

The IMF has 177 member states, including Canada. The managing director is Michel Camdessus (France). Canada's finance minister is the governor for Canada, and Canada has a seat on the Executive Board.

NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT (NAM)

The Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) was established after a series of increasingly structured meetings beginning in Bandung, Indonesia, in 1955. Created during the Cold War, it professed non-alignment with either of the two superpowers. Its mandate also included a search for solutions to world economic problems, particularly disparities in the level of global development. NAM currently consists of 110 diverse states, the majority from the developing world. A number of countries including Canada, as well as a variety of international and multilateral organizations, maintain observer status. Indonesia currently holds the chair.

NORTHWEST ATLANTIC FISHERIES ORGANIZATION (NAFO)

The Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO) is the international body responsible for managing fish stocks in the northwest Atlantic outside Canada's 200-mile limit. NAFO is made up of 11 contracting parties: Canada, the European Community, Bulgaria, Cuba, Denmark (for