

several federal and provincial representatives each claiming to represent Canada can seriously affect national negotiating strength. Yet provincial and regional interests must clearly be seen to be reflected in Canada's position at international meetings if provincial frustrations are not to lead to even more international activity on their part.

The sheer bureaucratic complexity of ensuring full provincial participation and awareness of an increasing number of government-to-government activities, however, tends to limit provincial involvement. Nevertheless, the need for a closer cooperation between federal and provincial levels is clear and pressing if opportunities offered by international collaboration are to be fully seized. The necessary rules must await the outcome of the External Affairs paper but the search for a more effective mechanism to ensure full and whole-hearted provincial participation in appropriate future government-to-government endeavours should go ahead with all speed.

MAIN FOREIGN COUNTRY GROUPINGS

The main strategic question regarding Canada's involvement in international collaboration in S&T concerns the emphasis to be placed on each of the main foreign country groups: the industrialized nations, the Warsaw Pact countries and the developing countries.

The Industrialized Nations

In excess of 95 percent of the World's S&T resources and capabilities lies with the industrialized countries of the West and East, the member nations of the OECD representing the most powerful single grouping of advanced technology and scientific knowledge. Canada not only belongs to the OECD group in its own right as an advanced industrial nation but also has special geographical and cultural links to some of the most powerful members. To the potential represented by these links must also be added the bargaining strength of Canada's large mineral and other resources, a highly developed S&T infrastructure and world leadership in certain technological areas.

Canada is therefore well placed to further exploit the possibilities offered by international collaboration with the industrialized nations of the OECD - possibilities which could make a substantial contribution towards bringing the level of R&D performed nationally more in line with the international norm. The main thrust of Canada's international S&T activities has traditionally lain in the direc-