

conclusion of the consultation, participants agreed upon an Action Plan covering 11 priority areas:

- a) review of the Canadian Human Rights Act (write letters);
- b) on-going communication amongst participants by electronic means (a list-server has been established);
- c) human rights implementation for Aboriginal People(s) (write a letter; an issues paper has been circulated through the list-server);
- d) parliamentary strategies (a follow-up committee has been established to develop strategies);
- e) Social Union Framework Agreement (prepare NGO input into the upcoming review of the Framework; write a strategy paper);
- f) Federal-Provincial-Territorial Continuing Committee of Officials on Human Rights (develop strategies to open this body to NGO participation; write a letter);
- g) education on human rights (survey resources; work with schools of journalism and of law);
- h) petitions to the Human Rights Committee (share information);
- i) Canadian Association of Statutory Human Rights Agencies (write a letter);
- j) treaty ratification (lobby); and
- k) trade and human rights (write a common platform; share resources and information).

For each of these areas, one or more participants volunteered to be the lead actor(s) and contact point(s).

### Women

Out of the 42 participants more than half (i.e., 24) were women. Women's rights were an important aspect of all discussions and are taken into account in all follow-up activities.

### **Evaluation methods**

Quantifiable results include: the number of participants (44), the 3 papers produced for the consultation, the number of final reports produced and distributed, the establishment of a list-server, and the writing of collective letters to various decision- and policy-making bodies.

The qualitative evaluation of the Consultation as being successful from the participants' point of view was assessed through participant observation by the Ad Hoc Organising Committee in all events and through informal discussions with participants.

The Consultation was considered successful by all in attendance. If we had the opportunity to repeat the project we would not significantly change the strategies nor the methodology used. The only disappointment was the relatively low participation of Parliamentarians at the Friday night panel, partly due to a factor outside of our control, namely that the members of the Liberal Party of Canada were required by their party to