

PREFATORY NOTE

Other Bureaux and Departments have contributed views and comments on different aspects of this policy paper at earlier stages. The final draft, however, as presently structured and formulated, is essentially a long term Departmental assessment of consular issues, objectives and desirable policies during the present decade.

Senior management will be aware of the legislative and regulatory limits within which new policies can be introduced or remodelled. These are often the primary responsibility of bodies outside this Department and different levels of government.

The central role of External Affairs consists in proposing initiatives and coordinating views for concerted interdepartmental action or government decisions on consular policy for the better protection of Canadian citizens, corporate bodies and their property beyond the national territory.

Depending on the subject matter, the follow-up on this report may involve consultations with other Departments or provincial officials as well as with foreign authorities concerned.