

**THE PROVINCES OF CANADA AND THE EXERCISE
OF TREATY-MAKING POWERS**

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this study is to examine

- (a) whether, under the principles of international law, the members of a federal union can make international agreements; and, if so,
- (b) what is the nature of such agreements under international law and under what conditions can they be made;
- (c) what are the implications of these principles and practices for the exercise of treaty-making in Canada.

This study accordingly examines

- (I) The principles of international law relating to the powers of members of a federal state to make treaties;
- (II) The practice of federal states other than Canada in respect of treaty-making by the members of the union;
- (III) Interpretation of the Canadian Constitution concerning possible provincial treaty-making powers;
- (IV) Provincial practice in Canada in respect of treaty-making;
- (V) Possible future provincial participation in treaty-making.

The conclusions drawn are set out at the end of the study.