Hong Kong from 1989-1994. Mr. Higginbotham was born in Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada. He graduated from the University of Saskatchewan in Economics and undertook Graduate Studies in Development economics on a Fellowship at the University of Ibadan in Nigeria. He then obtained his M.A. in International Economics from McGill on a Fellowship and joined the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade. After an assignment at the United Nations in New York, he undertook two years of full-time Chinese (Mandarin) training at a British military facility in Hong Kong, and was assigned to the Canadian Embassy in Beijing doing trade and economic work for the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce. He returned to Ottawa to head the China Section at Headquarters from 1975-77, served on the Policy Planning staff of the Department for two years and was subsequently sent by the Department to Harvard for a year as a Fellow of the Center for International Affairs where he worked on international economic subjects. Mr. Higginbotham returned to Beijing from 1980-82 as Counsellor and Head of Chancery, responsible for political, economic and management issues at the Embassy. He returned again to Ottawa in 1982 and became Director of the International Economic Relations Division (1982-1985) where he was responsible for Economic Summits and the OECD, and Director General of the Policy Planning Staff (1985-89) where he was responsible for a wide range of major Canadian trade policy, (especially the Free Trade Agreement) and foreign policy issues including a comprehensive Parliamentary review of Canada's International Relations. Mr. Higginbotham speaks English, French and Chinese. He is married to Michèle Allard Higginbotham and has two sons.

Lorenz Friedlaender joined the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade in 1971. Since October, 2000 he is Head of Policy Planning, Policy Planning Secretariat. He has previously served at the Privy Council Office as Assistant Secretary, Policy and Strategy, Intergovernmental Affairs, (1999-00), as well as Director of Strategic Planning, Foreign and Defence Policy Secretariat (1997-99). He was Minister at the Canadian Embassy in Bonn (1993-97); Director, Central and Eastern Europe Relations Division in Ottawa (1991-93); Minister-Counsellor in Brussels (1987-91); attended the Royal College of Defence Studies in London (1987); Director, Caribbean and Central America Relations Division in Ottawa (1985-86); Executive Assistant to the Deputy Minister (Political Affairs) in Ottawa (1983-85); Deputy Director (Economic) Western European Division in Ottawa (1981-83); First Secretary & Consul in Prague (1979-81); First Secretary, Permanent Mission New York (1977-79); Desk Officer, Western European Division in Ottawa (1974-77); Third/Second Secretary in Brussels-NAC (1972-74); Third Secretary & Vice-Consul in Vienna (June to September 1972); Protocol, East Asia, Commercial Policy Divisions in Ottawa (1971-72). Mr. Friedlaender is married and has three children.

Ron MacIntosh was born in Nova Scotia but spent his youth in Toronto. He is a graduate of Dalhousie University (BA Political Science) and Carleton University (MA International Affairs). After working briefly in the Canadian International Development Agency, Mr. MacIntosh joined the Department of External Affairs in 1975 and, between a number of headquarters assignments focussed mainly on economic and trade issues, he has had postings in Barbados, Tokyo, Seoul and, most recently, in Washington DC as Counsellor (Environment and Fisheries). In the