

- c) Science in Public Policy, the active participation of scientifically trained personnel in the development of long term national strategic policies and the introduction of scientific knowledge, analysis, and methodology into such planning activity.

The Role of MOSST.

19. MOSST has experimented with a number of organizational structures during its lifetime and its role has been subject to a variety of interpretations. The experience of the formative years will be further discussed in the next section of this document but it is appropriate at this juncture to examine the role as it is now maturing and comment on the extent to which it matches the role recommended in the Senate Committee's report.

20. The Senate Committee felt strongly that MOSST's role as described in the Order in Council came . . . "within the framework of the coordination model", and lacked the authority needed for an effective central agency. The Committee recommended that the Ministry's role be within the framework of the "concerted action" model and specifically that the Ministry's terms of reference be modified to give it budgetary authority in relation to science.

21. While the Ministry tended to agree with the Senators that its role should be more positive than that of its predecessor the Science Secretariat, it could not agree with the Committee's recommendation that it be given authority over science expenditures. The reasoning behind this stemmed from the Ministry's contention - a contention that has since been confirmed as one of the main pillars of the Federal Government's science policy framework - that science is not an end in itself but a means of solving national problems and achieving national goals. The Government's interpretation of national goals and its perception of national problems are reflected in large part in the objectives set for its