

predate the Uruguay Round conclusion, and others are either being negotiated or are in the planning stages. International environmental agreements that, for example, target emissions of harmful substances or the sustainable management of natural resources, set international standards for environmental responsibility. The Montréal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer, the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal, the Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Sulphur Dioxide Protocol and the proposed Convention to Combat Desertification are some examples. Through these agreements, countries work together to tackle complex environmental problems that are the result of human activity, including those associated with increases in economic activity—as in the case of liberalized trade.

As a party to these agreements, Canada has an ongoing responsibility to review its commitments in light of changes in global circumstances. The conclusion of the Uruguay Round, and the implementation of its results, are important changes that will need to be factored into Canada's commitments and monitoring needs, and into the compliance provisions of all existing and potential international environmental agreements.