

division prepares instructions and suggestions, in consultation with other bureaux, agencies and departments, for Canadian representatives to the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament in Geneva, which is the negotiating body that reports annually to the United Nations General Assembly. The 26-nation Committee is seeking agreements in such important areas of arms control as a comprehensive prohibition of nuclear-weapons tests and a ban on the development, production and stockpiling of chemical and biological agents of warfare. This division also co-ordinates Canadian policies and positions on arms-control questions under consideration in NATO. The most important of these are the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks (SALT) between the United States and the Soviet Union, on which the United States consults closely with its NATO allies. The North Atlantic Council is also co-ordinating preparations for possible negotiations with the Soviet Union and other countries on NATO's initiative for mutual and balanced force reductions in Central Europe, and Canada is playing an active role in these preparations.

The *Bureau of Legal and Consular Affairs* consists of three divisions -- Consular, Legal Advisory and Legal Operations -- under the general policy direction of the Legal Adviser to the Department of External Affairs, who is also the Director-General of Legal and Consular Affairs. Each of the three divisions functions independently under its own director in close co-ordination with the others, with other divisions in the Department and with other departments of the Government. The functions of the Bureau are as follows:

- (1) To advise the Department of External Affairs and the Canadian Government on matters of international law and on consular affairs;
- (2) to contribute to the progressive development of international law in the light of Canadian interests;
- (3) to ensure the development and execution of Canadian foreign policy in accordance with recognized or developing principles of international law;
- (4) to initiate, through appropriate consultation, reviews of established Canadian policy in the field of international legal affairs and consular affairs in the light of domestic and international developments and changing Canadian interests; to plan new initiatives as appropriate;
- (5) to manage the execution of foreign policy in this area of responsibility, and to ensure the effective administration of the Bureau;
- (6) to service enquiries from the public, and in particular from the legal profession, concerning private international law matters;