

SUCH A FRAMEWORK WOULD ENSURE THAT SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT BECOMES A PRIORITY IN OECD COMMITTEES INCLUDING TRADE, AGRICULTURE, ECONOMIC POLICY AND OTHER AREAS. IT COULD ALSO LEAD TO THE GUIDELINES THAT WOULD ENCOURAGE MEMBER GOVERNMENTS TO BUILD IN ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS TO DECISION-MAKING IN OTHER FIELDS.

SUCH A FRAMEWORK WOULD, I BELIEVE, PROVE TO HAVE ENORMOUS BENEFITS FOR GOVERNMENTS AND INDUSTRY.

IT WOULD ENABLE GOVERNMENTS AND INDUSTRY TO UNDERTAKE POLICIES AND PROJECTS THAT ARE ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND.

THE OECD ALSO HAS A ROLE IN BROADENING THE DIALOGUE ON THE ENVIRONMENT. FOR EXAMPLE, IT COULD ORGANIZE A MULTI-SECTORAL ADVISORY BOARD ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT. EXPERIENCE IN CANADA WITH SUCH A BODY, OUR NATIONAL ROUND TABLE ON ENVIRONMENT AND ECONOMY, SHOWS THE POTENTIAL IT HAS FOR INNOVATIVE, PRAGMATIC APPROACHES TO THE CHALLENGE OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT.

CANADA WOULD LIKE TO SEE A LINK ESTABLISHED BETWEEN THE 1991 OECD ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MINISTERIAL AND THE OECD MINISTERIAL MEETING THAT SAME YEAR. SUCH A LINK WOULD GIVE FOCUS TO NEW OECD ENVIRONMENT AND ECONOMY ACTIVITIES, AND SYMBOLIZE THE INTEGRATION OF ENVIRONMENT AND ECONOMY ISSUES WITHIN THE OECD.