

Another preoccupation for our Unit in 1991 was the work associated with the 20 complaints under the Canadian Human Rights Act by sponsors or persons to be visited, who allege that they are victims, as that term is defined in the Act, of discrimination due to EAITC's refusal to issue a visa to the person abroad. EAITC is challenging the jurisdiction of the Human Rights Commission in relation to these cases. The first of these cases, Menghani, is now before the Canadian Human Rights Tribunal.

In addition to providing general advice and litigation support in respect of immigration matters, our Unit is very much involved in training visa officers and immigration program officers. In 1991, our Unit provided the following training:

- February 6 and August 6: Legal Issues for Officers Undertaking their first Immigration assignment. 2 one day courses. These courses dealt with procedural fairness in the overseas immigration context, the impact of the Charter and the Canadian Human Rights Act and the treatment of personal information.
- March 6: Legal aspects of the immigration liaison function abroad. Half day course. This course covered the role of officers in determining the validity of documents and the relationship between officers and airlines flying to Canada.
- March 20: Legal Issues Regarding the Processing of Refugee Applications abroad. Half day course. This course dealt with the legal requirements of the treatment of refugee applicants as well as general procedural fairness questions.
- March 21: Briefing of U.S. Immigration Program Managers. Half day course. This course provided managers with the latest developments in the administrative law field having an impact on the delivery of the immigration program.
- May 29: Visa Officer Refresher Course. One day course. This course dealt in an advanced fashion with procedural fairness in the overseas context and the impact of the Charter and the Canadian Human Rights Act. In addition, a large portion of the time was spent answering questions concerning the meaning of various provisions in the Immigration Act and Regulations.
- Nov. 21 & 22: Briefing of Visiting Immigration Program Officers. Two days course. This covered all of the issues mentioned above.

The work of our Unit in respect of **consular activities** included participation in the drafting of a new Diplomatic and Consular Privileges, Immunities and Benefits Act and the drafting of a contribution agreement with the CBC relating to Radio Canada International. The Unit also provided advice on various issues flowing from the Gulf war, in particular, liability questions relating to the evacuation of Canadians from Iraq and Kuwait.