

OBJECTIVES

The goals and objectives of the Consultation were:

- To propose monitoring and enforcement mechanisms that make international human rights provisions more effective and useful to affected constituencies in Canada.
- To develop an on-going plan to:
 - provide civil society input into the review of the mandate of the Canadian Human Rights Commission and of the *Canadian Human Rights Act*;
 - suggest means to facilitate civil society participation in the monitoring of and reporting on the implementation of internationally recognized human rights in Canada; and
 - encourage greater federal-provincial collaboration in the ratification and implementation of international human rights instruments.
- To advance the implementation of international human rights in Canada.
- To develop a greater understanding of Canada's human rights instruments internationally and domestically, and of their interdependence.
- To identify points of intersection between human rights constituencies in Canada and to encourage collaboration between them.
- To facilitate the sharing of information, policy advocacy skills and resources amongst civil society groups working to promote human rights in Canada and internationally.

ACTION PLAN

In plenary at the conclusion of the Consultation, participants agreed upon an Action Plan covering 11 areas around which particular participants were willing to collaborate. It is expected that these areas and actions will be expended or modified as the Human Rights Linkages network grows.

Area 1: Review of the *Canadian Human Rights Act*

Background:

In April 1999, the Minister of Justice of Canada announced a review of the *Canadian Human Rights Act* (CHRA) and of the policies and practices of the Canadian Human Rights Commission. A panel of four members was appointed to carry out the Review and was asked to report in April 2000. The panel conducted public consultations and requested written submissions in the Summer and Fall of 1999. For more information and the text of all submissions, visit <http://www.chrreview.org> or call (613) 946-1388.