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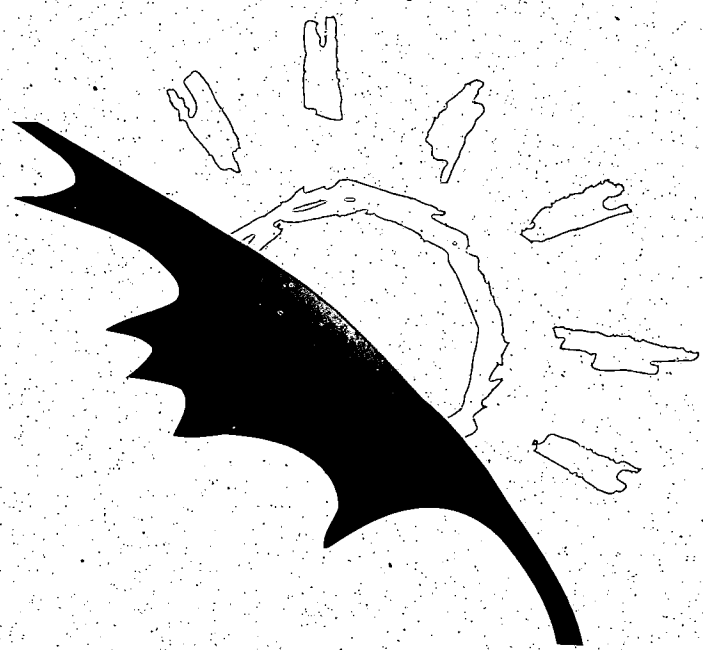
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Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade  
Ministère des Affaires étrangères et du Commerce international

DOCS

# ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PLAN

*February, 1995*



Office of the Co-ordinator for Environmental Assessment and Stewardship (JEN)  
Bureau de l'évaluation et de la gérance environnementale (JEN)

*"The government needs to get its own house in order. It won't do any good for the government to bring down regulations or tell others what to do unless we clean up our own act as well. It's not going to be easy but we are going to green the largest organization in Canada - the federal government."*

**Sheila Copps, Globe '94**



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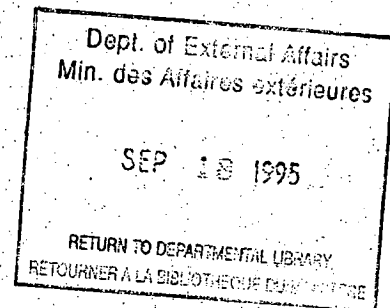
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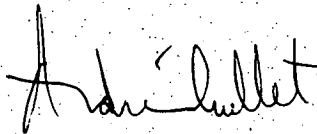
## FOREWORD

I am pleased to present the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade's first Environmental Management Plan. The plan reflects our commitment as a government department to protect the environment while carrying out our daily operations.

This is an exciting and challenging time for us all. It is imperative that we introduce measures to ensure that our interaction with the environment is sustainable in Canada and abroad. We must also find ways to cut costs and remain competitive internationally. Sound environmental management is compatible with the new economy; indeed, caring for the environment can lead to substantial economic benefits.

Internationally, Canada has been one of the strongest advocates of the environment. We must ensure that our actions, at home and abroad, fulfil our promises.

Many of you have already taken steps to include environmental considerations in your work. I applaud your efforts and enthusiasm. I also commend the Committee on Environmental Management for its firm commitment to environmental stewardship.



The Honourable André Ouellet, P.C., M.P.

Minister of Foreign Affairs


## FOREWORD

On behalf of the Committee on Environmental Management, I am pleased to present the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade's first Environmental Management Plan. This plan is the essential first step in the implementation of DFAIT's commitment to the Government's sustainable development objectives.

The Committee on Environmental Management is responsible for ensuring that DFAIT incorporate environmental standards into all areas of its operations. The Committee is supported by the Office of the Coordinator for Environmental Assessment and Stewardship (JEN).

I thank the Committee for its work in formulating this plan and I look forward to its successful implementation. The plan is a real opportunity for DFAIT to demonstrate environmental stewardship at home and abroad.

Each of us has a role to play. Through our actions, our Department can work toward fulfilling our promises.



The Honourable John A. Fraser, P.C., Q.C.

Ambassador for the Environment  
Chairman, Committee on Environmental Management

### **The Committee on Environmental Management:**

Gaëtan Lavertu, Associate Deputy Minister/DMA  
John Weekes, Senior Assistant Deputy Minister/UGB  
Marie Bernard-Meunier, Assistant Deputy Minister/AFB  
Barry Carin, Assistant Deputy Minister/EFB  
William Clarke, Assistant Deputy Minister/SCB  
Leonard Edwards, Assistant Deputy Minister/PGB  
Jean Pierre Juneau, Assistant Deputy Minister/RGB  
Philippe Kirsch, Legal Adviser/JFB  
Kathryn McCallion, Assistant Deputy Minister/LGB  
Marc Perron, Assistant Deputy Minister/CGB  
Brian Schumacher, Assistant Deputy Minister/TFB

**1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The past few years have brought a dramatic shift in the way that the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT) is expected to manage its resources. Increased public concern for the environment and tougher domestic environmental legislation and international standards all require an enhanced level of corporate commitment to the sound environmental management of resources.

Proactive, prevention-oriented environmental management is essential to DFAIT's long term efficiency and competitiveness. The environmental vision of DFAIT's corporate leadership will be central to motivating employees to environmental excellence and ensuring that sustainable development becomes an integral part of DFAIT's corporate culture and decision-making in the 1990s. Sustainable development must remain a key DFAIT corporate value.

For DFAIT, the overriding priority is environmental impact assessments of new policy and program initiatives -- as required by 1990 Cabinet Directive on The Environmental Assessment Process for Policy and Program Proposals. Prospects are that the existing requirements will be strengthened in the coming months. In the interim, ministers must be advised of possible environmental impacts of decisions they are asked to make.

Under the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act (CEAA), environmental impact assessments are also required for projects funded by DFAIT: for example, capital projects supported by export credits, foreign aid, and technical assistance. A Projects Outside Canada Regulation will be developed to provide the flexibility needed to meet foreign and international trade policy requirements. For export credits, the necessary Crown Corporation Regulation that will apply to the Export Development Corporation (EDC) has been postponed until international guidelines are developed.

DFAIT's overall environmental management responsibilities are outlined in the Canadian Code of Environmental Stewardship. The priorities are: a.) developing a departmental sustainable development strategy; and b.) implementing environmental management plans at missions abroad, including "green" procurement, waste reduction, and energy conservation programs.

The Office of the Coordinator for Environmental Assessment and Stewardship (JEN) (5 FTEs and an operating budget of \$70,000) coordinates the DFAIT environmental management plan. Branches are responsible for environmental impact assessments of projects and new policy and program initiatives. Headquarters Administrative Services Division (SBA) is responsible for the environmental management of the Pearson Building and other DFAIT occupied premises in Canada. The Physical Resources Bureau (SRD) is responsible for environmental impact assessments of Headquarters-funded property projects at missions and for functional guidance to missions on their environmental management responsibilities. Missions are responsible for the environmental management of DFAIT properties abroad. The Office of the Inspector General (SIX) is responsible for reviews of DFAIT's environmental management program.

A committee of senior managers and employee representatives will monitor and report on DFAIT's environmental management program. The Committee will be chaired by the Ambassador for the Environment, the Hon. John Fraser, and will include Branch Assistant Deputy Ministers.

### **Conclusion**

While DFAIT has long been at the forefront of Canada's international environmental efforts, it is relatively new to environmental management and applying sustainable development considerations to the day to day management of departmental resources. For example, DFAIT does not yet have a comprehensive sustainable development strategy. Adoption of DFAIT'S first environmental management plan is an essential step towards meeting evolving Canadian legislative requirements and the government's strong commitment to the greening of federal government operations. Due diligence and continuous improvement will be needed to respond to scrutiny by the public, ministers, and the proposed Office of the Commissioner for the Environment and Sustainable Development.

## **2. ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT POLICY**

### **2.1. COMMITMENT**

Recognizing that the protection, preservation and enhancement of the environment is a global priority, DFAIT will apply sound environmental practices to the management of its resources and operations in Canada and at missions abroad. Specific commitments are outlined in section 3.

#### **A. Environmental Stewardship**

DFAIT adopts the Canadian Code of Environmental Stewardship as the basis for environmental management of its facilities and resources.

#### **B. Environmental Impact Assessments**

DFAIT will conduct environmental impact assessments as required by the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act; the 1990 Cabinet Directive on the Environmental Assessment Process for Policy and Program Proposals; international commitments; and the laws, guidelines and practices of foreign jurisdictions.

#### **C. Environmental Reviews**

DFAIT will initiate environmental reviews of its operations and will report annually to the Minister on its environmental performance.

### **2.2. LEGAL REQUIREMENTS**

With other federal departments and agencies, DFAIT is required to comply with numerous statutory and non-statutory requirements pertaining to environmental management including the following:

#### **Statutory Requirements**

- ◆ Related international agreements and provincial and foreign legislation
- ◆ Canadian Environment Protection Act (CEPA)
- ◆ Canadian Environment Assessment Act (CEAA)
- ◆ CEAA Regulations, including the Projects Outside Canada Regulation

#### **Non-Statutory Requirements**

- ◆ Canadian Code of Environmental Stewardship
- ◆ 1990 Cabinet Directive on the Environmental Assessment Process for Policy and Program Proposals (rev. 1993)
- ◆ Canadian Environmental Audit Standards



**2.3. RESOURCES FOR ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT**

Like other Departments and agencies, DFAIT is expected to meet all resource requirements for environmental management from within its operating budget. JEN was established with 5 FTEs and operating budget of \$70,000 ('94-'95) to coordinate environmental management, in particular, providing advice and guidance on impact assessments of policies and programs, and the construction of DFAIT properties abroad. Branch budgets, together with JEN's resources, need to be reviewed regularly to ensure that the necessary support for meeting DFAIT's environmental management responsibilities is made available.

**2.4. MONITORING**

Under the Code of Environmental Stewardship, all federal government employees are responsible for applying the principles of sustainable development to their work, thereby helping to ensure the "greening" of federal government operations. A committee of senior DFAIT managers and employee representatives, chaired by the Ambassador for the Environment, the Hon. John Fraser, will monitor DFAIT's environmental management programs. The Committee will assist JEN in setting environmental management objectives and will report regularly to the Deputy Minister. The Coordinator for Environmental Assessment and Stewardship will serve as Secretary to the Committee.

**3. ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PLAN**

**3.1. ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP**

**A. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY**

**1. RESPONSIBILITY**

Develop a departmental sustainable development strategy outlining how DFAIT policies, programs, and resources will be used to enhance sustainable development both domestically and globally.

**2. ACCOUNTABILITY**

JEN is accountable for coordinating development and implementation of the DFAIT sustainable development strategy, in consultation with AGE and other divisions.

**3. CONSIDERATIONS**

The agenda of the Government is based on an integrated approach to economic, environmental, social, and foreign policy. Sustainable development is being promoted as an integral component of decision-making throughout all levels of society.

The new Office of the Commissioner for Sustainable Development will report annually to Parliament. The reports will focus on how successfully departmental programs and spending are supporting the shift to sustainable development, most notably whether environmental considerations are being integrated into departmental decision making.

All ministers are required to table in Parliament in early 1997 sustainable development strategies with "concrete sustainable development goals and objectives and action plans for achieving them". The plans are to be "updated on a best efforts basis at a minimum every three years".

The sustainable development strategies are intended to provide benchmarks against which departmental progress towards sustainable development can be measured.

The Auditor General's Act will be amended to authorize receipt of petitions from the public on environmental concerns about federal government programs.

**4. PRIORITIES**

Implement DFAIT's Environmental Management Plan (JEN/Branches).

Review with all branches the new requirement for a departmental sustainable development strategy, and seek their input (JEN/Branches).

Develop and implement a departmental sustainable development strategy (JEN/AGE/Branches).

Evaluate on an ongoing basis all DFAIT policies, programs, guidelines and regulations to determine which encourage and which impede progress towards sustainable development (JEN/AGE/Branches).

Provide advice and assistance on policies, programs, and projects that foster sustainable development in Canada and abroad (JEN/AGE/Branches).

## **B. EDUCATION, TRAINING, AND AWARENESS**

### **1. RESPONSIBILITY**

Provide environmental education, training, and awareness programs for DFAIT personnel.

### **2. ACCOUNTABILITY**

JEN is accountable for coordinating education, training, and awareness programs in consultation with the Canadian Foreign Service Institute (CFSI).

### **3. CONSIDERATIONS**

Education, training, and awareness--not regulations and procedures--are the keys to the "greening" of DFAIT's operations and the implementation of sound environmental management practices in Canada and at missions abroad.

DFAIT personnel have long been at the forefront of Canada's international environmental efforts to promote sustainable development. They are, however, relatively less experienced in integrating environmental considerations into DFAIT's daily operations and the development of policies, programs, and projects.

### **4. PRIORITIES**

Identify and support environmental education and training requirements, particularly for DFAIT personnel involved in policy and program management, property and materiel management, and implementation of CEPA and CEAA (JEN).

Incorporate sustainable development and environmental management topics into CFSI training programs, including those for senior managers and mission administrative officers (CFSI).

Develop and support environmental awareness programs for personnel at Headquarters and missions on sustainable development including national environmental legislation, energy conservation, waste reduction, environmental impact assessments, procurement, and office practices (JEN in consultation with CIDA and EDC).

## **C. MATERIEL AND PROPERTY MANAGEMENT**

### **1. RESPONSIBILITY**

As outlined in the Code of Environmental Stewardship for the federal government, DFAIT is required to meet or exceed the requirements of federal and international environmental laws and guidelines that apply to the department's materiel, facility and property management in Canada and at missions abroad.

### **2. ACCOUNTABILITY**

Assistant Deputy Ministers are accountable for ensuring that environmental considerations are incorporated into DFAIT's management of materiel and properties in Canada and at missions abroad.

JEN is accountable for providing Branches with functional guidance on incorporating environmental considerations into DFAIT's decision-making and management of materiel and properties in Canada and at missions abroad.

### **3. CONSIDERATIONS**

The incorporation of environmental considerations into DFAIT's materiel and property management is driven more by "good practices" than by legislative requirements. Public expectations are high, however, for government to conduct its affairs in an environmentally sound manner. The federal government recognizes this expectation and is committed to the "greening of operations."

DFAIT is participating in an Environmental Accountability Partnership (EAP) among federal departments to establish government-wide priorities and targets for the greening of government operations. Chaired by the Treasury Board Secretariat and Environment Canada, the EAP is placing emphasis in five key areas: procurement; waste reduction; energy and water conservation; and fleet management.

Prospects are that Cabinet will soon approve shorter time-frames and new more stringent requirements for the EAP. DFAIT will be expected to demonstrate due diligence in meeting or exceeding EAP targets.

In Canada, DFAIT occupies buildings owned and managed by Public Works and Government Services Canada (PWGSC). DFAIT has an active role to play in ensuring that these facilities are managed in an environmentally sound manner.

DFAIT'S inventory of approximately 2500 properties outside Canada includes chanceries, offices, official residences, and staff quarters. Management of these properties is affected by foreign political, social, economic and security considerations and must consider local business practices and market fluctuations. This is particularly true with respect to the 70% of properties which are leased.

Environmental priorities for property and materiel management are not mutually exclusive. Decisions made in one area can, and often will, have a direct impact on another area.

**a. Procurement**

The federal government is the single largest enterprise in Canada, with annual expenditures of about \$125 billion. As such, the federal government can make a substantial contribution to the development of improved environmental technologies and products through its purchasing power.

DFAIT has a particular opportunity to use its procurement practices to promote Canadian environmental technology and services abroad.

At missions abroad, the quality of goods and services varies widely and it is sometimes difficult to meet Canadian manufacturing and disposal standards in foreign jurisdictions.

**b. Waste Reduction**

Landfill sites for solid waste are under increasing pressure and costs of garbage disposal have increased four to six times in the past decade. As well, restrictions are being placed on types of materials accepted at landfill sites.

While DFAIT makes only minimal use of toxic and hazardous materials at DFAIT facilities, care needs to be taken to ensure their proper management and disposal.

In the typical DFAIT office environment, paper waste accounts for 60-80% of the total waste stream. The challenge is to reduce this waste and manage it in an environmentally sound way.

Two essential elements of successful waste reduction program are:

- a.) employee support and participation in a waste reduction program; and
- b.) user friendly waste management facilities.

A waste audit and waste management plan for the Pearson Building have been initiated.

**c. Energy and Water Conservation**

The use of "green" appliances and equipment offers considerable potential for operational cost savings and reducing energy and water consumption.

Under the Federal Buildings Initiative, federal government properties across Canada are being retrofitted to reduce energy consumption. To date, the initiative has not been applied to DFAIT properties in Canada or abroad.

**d. Fleet Management**

Environmentally sound fleet management, including the use of alternative fuels, offers considerable scope for operational cost savings and reducing harmful emissions.

#### **4. PRIORITIES**

##### **a. Procurement**

Develop DFAIT "green" materiel management guidelines based on life cycle analysis and the 3Rs approach to waste reduction (JEN/ SRM/SBA).

Implement environmentally sound procurement practices in the materiel life-cycle for DFAIT operations in Canada and at missions abroad. (SRM/SBA/Branches/PWGSC).

Make full use of "green" product labelling and green product standards established by the International Standards Organization (SRM/SBA/Branches).

Review DFAIT procurement practices and identify opportunities for giving preference to competitively priced "green" products -- for example, by establishing standing offers with suppliers offering environmentally sound alternatives, particularly appliances (SRM/SBA/Branches).

##### **b. Waste Reduction**

Develop and implement a DFAIT waste reduction action plan, outlining specific measures and targets for facilities in Canada and abroad. Where local facilities permit, the targets will exceed those set for federal buildings in Canada under the Environmental Accountability Partnership (including a 50% reduction in waste products by 2000) (JEN/SBA/SRD/Branches).

Initiate waste audits and review options for reducing waste at DFAIT properties in Canada and abroad (JEN/SBA/SRD/Branches).

Manage and dispose of toxic and hazardous materials in accordance with Canadian and foreign requirements (SBA/SRD/Branches).

Complete implementation of the Pearson Building Waste Management Plan. (JEN/SBA).

**c. Energy and Water Conservation**

Survey energy and water consumption at DFAIT facilities owned and leased in Canada and abroad (JEN/SBA/SRD/Branches/PWGSC).

Develop and implement a plan to reduce energy and water consumption at DFAIT properties in Canada and abroad (JEN/SBA/SRD/Branches/PWGSC).

Support and promote the application of the Federal Buildings Initiative (FBI) at DFAIT properties in Canada (JEN/SBA/PWGSC).

**d. Fleet Management**

Survey DFAIT fleet management practices in Canada and abroad (JEN/SBA/SRD/Branches).

Develop and implement a plan to improve the environmental performance of the DFAIT fleet in Canada and abroad (JEN/SBA/SRD/Branches).

### **3.2. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENTS**

#### **1. RESPONSIBILITY**

Conduct environmental impact assessments as required by the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act (CEAA), and the 1990 Cabinet Directive on the Environmental Assessment Process for Policy and Program Proposals.

#### **2. ACCOUNTABILITY**

Assistant Deputy Ministers are accountable for meeting the environmental impact assessment requirements for projects and for policy and program initiatives.

SRD/JEN is accountable for environmental impact assessments of property projects funded by Headquarters.

#### **3. CONSIDERATIONS**

Environmental assessments are a self-administered planning tool. They are most effective and least resource intensive when applied as early as possible in the planning of projects, and policy and program initiatives.

JEN provides advice and assists on impact assessment requirements, preparing assessments, and coordinating input from other departments and agencies including the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency (CEAA), formerly FEARO .

JEN regularly reviews proposals for memoranda to Cabinet, Treasury Board submissions, Orders-in-Council, and international agreements for possible environmental impact assessment requirements.

##### **a. Policy and Programs**

Requirements for environmental impact assessments of policy and program proposals are outlined in the 1990 Cabinet Directive.

Because of its primary responsibility for Canadian foreign and international trade policy, DFAIT's highest environmental management priority is assessing the environmental impact of all new policy and program initiatives.

DFAIT regularly screens policy and program initiatives for possible environmental impact. In addition, it has prepared environmental reviews of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) and the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) Uruguay Round. This experience provides a solid basis for assessing the environmental impact of future foreign and trade policy initiatives.

The resource implications of conducting environmental assessments of policy and program initiatives can be significant. For example, the reviews of the



NAFTA and GATT Uruguay Round required, on the part of DFAIT alone, approximately 2 FTEs and 0.5 FTE respectively.

**b. Projects**

CEAA applies to all "projects" ("physical works and physical activities") most notably those funded by federal government departments agencies and crown corporations.

A Projects Outside Canada Regulation is being developed to ensure that foreign and trade policy considerations are taken into account in applying CEAA to projects outside Canada.

CEAA applies to all projects funded by Canadian development assistance programs. International guidelines for assessing Official Development Assistance (ODA) projects have been developed by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) Development Assistance Committee (DAC). The Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) is preparing to meet CEAA requirements.

CEAA applies to projects funded by export credits from the Canada Account and the EDC Corporate Account. The Crown Corporation Regulation that will apply to EDC has been postponed until international guidelines are established.

Other capital projects supported by DFAIT funding, for example, the Program for Export Market Development (PEMD) and the technical assistance program for Central and Eastern Europe, should be screened on a case by case basis to determine whether CEAA applies.

CEAA also applies to the construction and major modifications of DFAIT properties abroad (chanceries, offices, residences and staff quarters). SRD can normally meet all CEAA requirements for assessment of properties by completing environmental impact screenings. More detailed assessments will be required only in exceptional circumstances. A review of the SRD property construction program for 1993-94 indicates that under CEAA, environmental impact screenings are required for 20 projects.

**4. PRIORITIES**

**a. Policy and Programs**

Coordinate Canada's international policy on environmental impact assessments (JEN/CEAA/EDC/CIDA).

Prepare procedures and training for conducting environmental impact assessments of policy and program initiatives (JEN).

Conduct environmental impact assessments of all new policy and program initiatives (Branches in consultation with JEN).

Contribute to the development of international guidelines for conducting environmental impact assessments of official export credits (JEN in consultation with TPF, EDC).

**b. Projects**

Prepare a CEAA User's Guide for the Projects Outside Canada Regulation suitable for use by property managers, trade and development officers (JEN in consultation with SRD, RZD, TPF, EDC, and CIDA).

Ensure that the Projects Outside Canada Regulation comes into force as soon as possible (JEN).

Contribute to the development of other CEAA regulations, including the Crown Corporations Regulation (JEN).

Conduct environmental impact assessments of all projects not excluded by the CEAA (Branches in consultation with JEN).

As required by CEAA (s. 55), establish a Public Registry and ensure convenient public access to DFAIT environmental impact assessment documents (JEN).

Monitor and report on the resource requirements of conducting environmental impact assessments (Branches in consultation with JEN).

Prepare checklists, specifications, and planning tools needed for environmental impact assessments of construction and modification of DFAIT buildings (JEN/SRD).

Verify the suitability of procedures and tools by trial application on property construction and modification projects (JEN/SRD).

Conduct a formal assessment of the resource implications of implementing the procedures, checklists, and planning tools required to conduct environmental impact assessments of DFAIT property projects prior to full formal application of assessments (JEN/SRD).

Develop training modules on environmental impact assessment for inclusion in CFSI Property and Materiel Management courses (JEN in consultation with SRD and CFSI).

**3.3. ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEWS**

**1. RESPONSIBILITY**

Review and report on DFAIT's environmental performance.

**2. ACCOUNTABILITY**

The Inspector General (SIX) is accountable for reviewing DFAIT's environmental management programs, systems/procedures, and performance.

JEN is accountable for preparing annual reports on DFAIT's environmental management programs.

**3. CONSIDERATIONS**

DFAIT has limited experience in conducting comprehensive environmental audits. It has, however, completed a waste audit of the Pearson Building and an audit of contaminated sites and hazardous materials on DFAIT properties. No contaminated sites were identified.

Audits and regular reports on the environmental management of DFAIT resources will serve to enhance employee and client support for sustainable development objectives.

SIX is best placed to review, through audits and evaluations, DFAIT's environmental management program and performance.

**4. PRIORITIES**

Develop guidelines for reviewing DFAIT's environmental management programs at Headquarters and at missions abroad (JEN/SIX in consultation).

Prepare annual reports on DFAIT's environmental management program (JEN).

**4. COMMUNICATIONS PLAN**

**1. RESPONSIBILITY**

Promote greater awareness among DFAIT employees and clients of the need for sustainable development.

**2. ACCOUNTABILITY**

JEN is accountable for developing and implementing a communication plan to meet the requirements of the Environmental Management Plan.

**3. CONSIDERATIONS**

Experience in both the private and public sector indicates that employee and client support is the key to implementing sound environmental management practices.

DFAIT initiatives to increase environmental awareness include the adoption of a departmental green logo, a program of monthly environmental events at the Pearson Building, publication of environmental tips in the departmental notices, and a variety of activities at posts.

**4. PRIORITIES**

Develop and implement a communications program to meet the objectives of DFAIT's Environmental Management Plan (JEN/BCC).

Prepare environmental awareness information kits for missions (JEN).

Publicize DFAIT's environmental management initiatives to date (JEN/BCC).

The Environmental Management Plan for the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade was prepared by the Office of the Coordinator for Environmental Assessment and Stewardship (JEN).

JEN welcomes comments and suggestions on the plan. These should be addressed to:

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Office of the Coordinator for Environmental Assessment and  
Stewardship (JEN)  
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*Tel:* 613-944-0428

*Fax:* 613-944-0432

5. ANNEX 1 - "CREATING OPPORTUNITIES"

As outlined in Creating Opportunities, the agenda of the Government is based on an integrated approach to economic, social, environmental and foreign policy. It is the policy of the Government to promote sustainable development as an integral component of decision making at all levels of our society.

As recognized in Creating Opportunities, the environmental agenda can no longer be separated from the national economic agenda. The federal government, across all departments, must act on this understanding by adopting economic and environmental agendas that converge. It must show leadership and accountability in integrating environmental and economic decisions.

The Government's agenda for creating a healthy environment includes:

- ◆ Conducting a comprehensive baseline study of federal taxes, grants, and subsidies to identify barriers to sound environmental practices. This will be supported by efforts to promote research, development, and implementation of: clean energy-efficient technologies, renewable energy use, sustainable management of resources, and the protection of biodiversity;
- ◆ Establishing a Task Force involving government, industry, and environmental non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to identify barriers and disincentives to sound environmental practices, and to find effective ways to use economic instruments to protect the environment. This was confirmed by the Minister of Finance in the 1994 Budget;
- ◆ Supporting the House of Commons Standing Committee on Environment and Sustainable Development in addressing the proposal in Creating Opportunities, to appoint an Environmental Auditor General, reporting directly to Parliament, with powers of investigation similar to those of the Auditor General. This office would report annually to the public on how successfully federal programs and spending are supporting the shift to sustainable development;
- ◆ Proclaiming CEAA by introducing the necessary implementing regulations, including a Projects Outside of Canada Regulation (POC). As well, CEAA may be amended to broaden application of the Act to include policies and programs as well as projects. Other amendments being considered would make panel decisions more binding, affirm the requirement for intervenor funding, and ensure only one assessment is completed for each project; and
- ◆ Reviewing in detail Canada's commitment to sustainable development and funding for the Green Plan.

This is the context in which DFAIT's first Environmental Management Plan (EMP) has been prepared. The EMP takes into account the Government's commitment to Creating Opportunities and DFAIT "green plan" initiatives. Priority is given to integrating DFAIT's environmental and economic decision-making process.

**6. ANNEX 2 - DFAIT CODE OF ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP<sup>1</sup>**

The Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade fully supports the principle of sustainable development. To reflect this commitment in all aspects of its operations and activities in Canada and at Canadian missions abroad -- from the implementation of Canadian foreign and international trade policy to facility management, procurement, and waste management -- the Department commits:

- ◆ To integrate environmental concerns with operational, financial, safety, health, economic development and other relevant concerns in decision-making;
- ◆ To meet or exceed the letter and spirit of federal environmental laws and, where appropriate, to be compatible with provincial and international standards;
- ◆ To improve the level of employee awareness of the environmental and health benefits and risks of operational decisions and to encourage and recognize employee actions;
- ◆ To apply environmentally responsible management practices to hazardous substances used in operations, including biological products, specifically with regard to the acquisition, handling, storage, safety in use, transportation and disposal of such substances;
- ◆ To ensure that environmental considerations are integrated into government purchasing policies and practices;
- ◆ To seek cost-effective ways of reducing the input of raw materials, toxic substances, energy, water and other resources, and of reducing the generation of waste and noise associated with day-to-day operations; and
- ◆ To acquire, manage and dispose of lands in a manner that is environmentally sound, including the protection of ecologically significant areas

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<sup>1</sup> Based on the Code on Environmental Stewardship endorsed in the Green Plan.

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