

## **POLLUTANTS AND HEALTH**

The mission of the Pollutants and Health program area is to establish cooperative initiatives on a North American scale to prevent or correct the adverse effects of pollution on human and ecosystem health. Guidance on methods to accomplish this mission is embodied within the language of NAAEC Article 10. These methods include: encouraging technical cooperation between the Parties; promoting pollution prevention techniques and strategies; recommending appropriate limits for specific pollutants, taking into account differences in ecosystems; recommending approaches for the comparability of techniques and methodologies for data gathering and analysis, data management, and electronic data communications; and promoting access to publicly available information concerning the environment that is held by public authorities of each Party.

This program area aims to pursue the following objectives:

- facilitating coordination and cooperation between the three countries on protection of the environment;
- enhancing comparability and compatibility between the three environmental protection systems;
- improving the knowledge base on issues of environmental pollution;
- developing technical and strategic tools to avoid, eliminate, reduce, or manage environmental pollutants; and
- improving the scientific, technical, and strategic capabilities of North American environmental protection agencies.

The activities planned and described in this document are the result of a coordinated effort between the five programs to maximize their combined benefit. These activities have also been designed to coordinate with and enhance the efforts of other North American environmental protection entities.

### **Program Initiatives**

Five programs and their subsidiary projects specifically address the protection of human and ecosystem health.

#### **Cooperation on North American Air Quality Issues**

- Cooperation on North American Air Quality Issues

#### **Sound Management of Chemicals**

- Sound Management of Chemicals

#### **North American Pollutant Release and Transfer Register**

- North American Pollutant Release and Transfer Register

#### **Pollution Prevention**

- Capacity Building for Pollution Prevention

#### **Children's Health and the Environment in North America**

- Children's Health and the Environment in North America