

# Foreword

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This volume brings together the results of analysis and research undertaken within, on behalf of, or in collaboration with International Trade Canada over the past year. Launched in 2001 as part of the response to the Government of Canada's *Policy Research Initiative*, a government-wide effort to re-create and expand its research capacity, the *Trade Policy Research* series is now in its fourth edition.

Previous volumes have traced the debate in trade policy circles since the watershed developments at the 1999 WTO Ministerial in Seattle, through the launch and early phases of the Doha Round, touching on topical issues of the times from the post-Seattle surge of interest in regional trade agreements, to the post-9/11 concerns about trade and security, to the ongoing articulation of the interface between international trade and investment agreements and domestic policy.

This year's volume continues in that vein. Part I addresses issues confronting the Doha Development Agenda as it overcame a collapse at the Fifth WTO Ministerial Conference at Cancún to reach agreement on the framework for negotiations in July, 2004 that might now set the stage for an ambitious and successful outcome.

Part II reviews development-related issues bearing on the global trading system, not least the key issue of technical assistance and capacity building that may well hold the key to reaching agreement on a package in the Doha Development Agenda.

Part III focuses more closely on Canada-specific issues. The four chapters describe: Canada's approach to development of trade and investment policy, including the role of consultations and analytical support; the new International Trade Canada computable general equilibrium model for analyzing the impact of trade policies on Canada; an assessment of the importance of Canada-US trade for employment in the United States; and a major review of the implications of Canada's commitments under the General Agreement on Trade in Services for