

## **Abstract**

# **Trade and Investment Issues in Doing Business Between Canada and Africa**

In February 2002, Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters (CME) submitted a proposal to the Canadian Centre for Foreign Policy Development (CPC) of the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT) to organize meetings in Toronto to discuss trade and investment issues in doing business between Canada and Africa. In late February 2002, CPC contracted CME to organize a one-day meeting to be held in Toronto on March 15, 2002. The objective of the meeting was "to discuss trade and investment issues in doing business between Canada and Africa leading to policy recommendations." Fifty people attended the meeting in person with another 25 providing their comments verbally through direct contact with the CME team members.

The immediate output of the meeting and discussions held with individuals unable to come to the meeting was to present to CPC recommendations leading to policy options to assist the Government of Canada in formulating the G8 Africa Action Plan and ongoing policy development at DFAIT, the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), and other government departments. These are described in detail in the paper under trade, investment and finance, and development aid.

CME and each of the participants who came to the meeting or had discussions with CME team members welcomed this opportunity to participate in this issues and policy dialogue with the hope that the recommendations and policy options detailed in this report will be considered seriously by the Government of Canada and actions taken to ensure they are incorporated to strengthen and develop new opportunities for increased trade and investment between Canada and the individual countries and regions in Africa.