



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
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COMPENDIUM OF DOCUMENTS ON CANADIAN  
TRADE NEGOTIATIONS

The Right Honourable Joe Clark, Secretary of State for External Affairs and the Honourable James Kelleher, Minister for International Trade today released a compendium of basic documents concerning the upcoming trade negotiations. The documents explain the background and rationale for the government's commitment to pursue a bilateral agreement with the United States in conjunction with active participation in the next round of multilateral trade negotiations.

This book is being distributed in order to facilitate informed public debate on one of the most important issues facing the country.

Regarding the bilateral dimension of the initiative, Mr. Clark recently said:

"These negotiations will not be the first time that Canada and the United States will be sitting down to try to improve our trading relationship. In 1935, we concluded a bilateral trade agreement. Other countries joined us in 1938 and the principles of our bilateral accords formed the foundation of the post-war multilateral trading system. Together we also worked out the autopact agreement and the defense production sharing arrangements. Precisely because we have risen to the challenge before, we know that success at the end of the day repays the enormous effort, and good will and trust which negotiations require."

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