

Committee Report in the area of international trade and finance. In November, Cabinet approved an Omnibus Memorandum on the development of Montreal, which included new international trade initiatives estimated at \$2 million. The Department's detailed annual implementation plan was subsequently approved by the Montreal Executive Committee.

Trade facilitation

Work continued on the Trade Facilitation Program to improve procedures and documentation used in international trade. Its current emphasis is to enhance Canadian competitiveness by streamlining international documents and by participating in the development of an international standard for computerized communication of information used in international trade.

Assistance to the Electronic Interchange Council of Canada was extended to help it hold information seminars across the country. The Department represented Canadian interests in international bodies working on standards and documentation and on such issues as pre-shipment inspection.

Centres for International Business Studies

The Department continues to sponsor centres at Dalhousie University, Montreal's École des hautes études commerciales and the universities of Western Ontario, Manitoba and British Columbia. The objective is to enhance the quality of management in Canadian business, particularly in the export community, through the study of international business practices and techniques. The program is directed to providing business with university graduates who have an understanding of international business issues; providing business managers with programs to extend their skills in international marketing and business; encouraging research on international business issues; and providing materials for teachers.

Liaison with the business community

The Department has been increasing liaison with industry and trade associations. Regular meetings were held during the year with committees of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce, the Canadian Exporters' Association and other national organizations. Over 200 individual industry and trade associations were invited to Ottawa on two occasions

GROSS AND NET FLOWS OF FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT IN CANADA

