

the GATT-contracting parties. In November 1985, these parties granted Canada a waiver that permits the duty-free provisions of Caribcan. The waiver was granted until 1998, at which time Canada must request an extension.

A few products are excluded from duty-free treatment under Caribcan. These reflect the economic sensitivities of certain Canadian industries, and include textiles and clothing, footwear, luggage and handbags, leather garments, lubrication oils and methanol, all of which are subject to Canada's Most Favoured Nation (MFN) tariff, or to lower rates of duty for developing countries as set out under the General Preferential Tariff (GPT) or under the British Preferential Tariff (BPT).

"Rules of origin" have been established to determine which goods are entitled to enter Canada duty-free under Caribcan. In order to qualify for duty-free treatment, the goods must be grown, produced or manufactured in the commonwealth Caribbean, but may also incorporate materials or components from outside the area, providing they meet certain conditions. A minimum of 50 per cent of the ex-factory price of the goods must originate in any of the beneficiary countries, or in Canada.

3. Caribbean countries also benefit under the U.S. program Caribbean Basin Initiative (CBI).
4. African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries are signatories to the European Economic Community (EEC) trade agreement which was signed on February 28, 1975 and is referred to as the Lome Convention. The benefits consist largely of extending duty-free access to industrial products produced in the 45-member ACP countries.

## Government Agencies

**The Industrial Development Corporation (IDC).** The IDC was established in 1959 to stimulate, facilitate and undertake industrial development in Trinidad and Tobago. In order to discharge its function, IDC has the power to provide financial assistance by taking up share or loan capital, or by granting or guaranteeing loans. A "one-stop shop" has been established at the IDC and offers local and