

5. FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL CONSULTATION PROCESS REGARDING
INTERNATIONAL TRADE DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

In accordance with the "National Trade Strategy" enunciated by First Ministers at their 1985 meeting, External Affairs and International Trade Canada undertakes comprehensive consultations with provincial government departments responsible for international trade, in order to better coordinate and represent Canada's trade presence abroad. Each year, trade plans from posts abroad have been discussed with the provinces to ensure that export activities are better targeted to provincial priority countries and sectors. Complemented by input from private sector trade associations, these plans constitute a comprehensive work program for our posts abroad and have become an important tool for provincial trade departments.

In order to maintain the momentum of consultation between these annual visits to the provinces, a federal/provincial Assistant Deputy Ministers committee on trade development has been reconvened. This forum will allow timely exchange of information on evolving priorities and program development.

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