
WORLD TRADE TALKS: CANADA'S ROLE

Canada has played a major role in world trade talks for more than 50 years. Our bilateral trade agreements with the United States during the 1930's served, in large part, as a model for the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

Canada has been a strong supporter of liberalized and fair international trade. We have played an active and positive role in previous GATT negotiations such as the Kennedy round and the Tokyo round. We will continue that commitment in the new GATT round set to commence in late 1986.

But our interest in open and fair international trade is also enlightened self-interest. Canadian business, farming, fishing and labour interests are currently concerned with increasing protectionist measures around the world which threaten the stability of access to international markets.

Our economic health depends on a strong presence in international trade. And we'll be at the negotiating table to defend it and expand it.