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Minister for International Trade



Ministre du Commerce extérieur

MAKING THE WORLD CANADA'S MARKET

Canada has a vital stake in the international trading system. Three million Canadian jobs and one-third of all we produce depend on markets outside Canada.

Canada has always believed that the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) is the best available institution for ensuring that global trade is as free and fair as possible. Even as the government engaged in negotiations with the United States it maintained its strong commitment to the GATT "track" of its trade policy. As one of the 23 founding members of the GATT, Canada has a long-term commitment to that institution and the rules it has put in place.

The world has changed significantly since the GATT was created in 1948. Successive rounds of multilateral negotiations have eliminated many of the tariff and non-tariff barriers which used to impede international trade. Freer international trade and the technological revolution in transportation and communications have combined to create a truly global economy.

Canada has prospered in the global economy. Today, however, new and insidious forms of protectionism in foreign markets are threatening the interests of our farmers, manufacturers and service industries. Therefore, Canada has played a leading role in bringing the 95 member-nations of the GATT back to the table for a new round of negotiations, launched at a Conference of Ministers in Punta del Este, Uruguay, September 1986.

We have produced this brochure so that all Canadians can better understand the GATT, the stakes for Canada in the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations, and Canada's approach and objectives.

Pat Carney

Honourable Pat Carney
Minister for International Trade

Dept. of External Affairs
Min. des Affaires extérieures

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