DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Capital: Santo Domingo

GEODATA

Area

48,734 km²

Major language

Spanish (official)

Major religious group Roman Catholic (95%)

Surrounding countries Haiti, Puerto Rico (U.S.)

Population

8.9 million (2002 est.)

Population growth rate

1.6% (2001)

Caribbean Sea

POLITICAL DATA

Type of government

Republic

National legislature

Upper chamber: Senate

Lower chamber: Chamber of Deputies; multiparty

President Hipólito Mejía

Secretary of State for Foreign Relations

Francisco Guerrero Pratts

Secretary of State for Industry and Commerce

Sonia Guzmán Hernández

UN Human Development Index (2002)

The Dominican Republic ranks 94th among 173 countries

Canadian official development assistance

\$2.3 million (2001–2)

Inflation rate

Unemployment rate

16.1% (April 2002)

2.4% (2002)

ECONOMIC DATA

GDP

\$33.6 billion (2002 est.)

Real GDP growth rate

4.1% (2002 est.)

GDP per capita \$3,750 (2002 est.)

Main exports

Ferronickel, sugar, gold, silver, coffee, cocoa, tobacco, meats, consumer goods.

Main imports

Food products, oil, cotton and fabrics, chemicals, pharmaceuticals

Canadian imports from the Dominican Republic

\$117.7 million (2002), including electrical equipment, cocoa beans, apparel, electrical medical instruments and appliances, textile articles, fruit

Canadian exports to the Dominican Republic

\$127 million (2002), including circuit boards, newsprint, fish, milk and cream (concentrated or as powder), malt, fertilizers, wheat

Canadian Representative

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