



The Government agrees that Canada should continue to provide trade-related technical assistance and capacity-building assistance to enable the smaller economies of the Americas to access the benefits of the future Free Trade Area of the Americas agreement. Canadian assistance is part of a broader coordinated program of trade and development involving support from bilateral and multilateral donors. It involves the provision of technical assistance supporting a balanced trade agenda, including the promotion of effective governance. Canada will continue to play an active role in the FTAA's Consultative Group on Smaller Economies, as this is one of a number of mechanisms used to attain the appropriate level of coordination and support to meet these needs.

Recommendation 16

"That the federal government support the inclusion into the FTAA of special measures that would provide developing countries participating in the FTAA with a flexible time frame for implementing the terms of the agreement."

The Government is willing to consider time-limited transitional measures to enable smaller economies to adapt to and benefit from new opportunities in the FTAA. However, these measures are part of the FTAA negotiating process. The measures should also be supported by appropriate trade-related technical assistance and capacity-building activities. For this reason, Canada is lending support to the creation of a Hemispheric Cooperation Plan that would provide the level of coordination and assistance required to enable smaller economies to maximize the use of transitional measures.

Recommendation 17

"That Canada encourage other participating members of the Inter-American Development Bank to strengthen the mandate of that institution and its contribution to addressing the development requirements of countries in the Americas, as outlined in the Plan of Action of the Third Summit of the Americas."

As chair of the Summit of the Americas process, Canada encouraged the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), among other multilateral development banks, to participate in the drafting of the Summit Plan of Action and to cooperate during its implementation. Among the most significant results of the Quebec City Summit was the commitment made by the President of the IDB to make resources available to support the Summit process. The IDB responded strongly to the call by Canada to support the Plan of Action of the Third Summit of the Americas. Shortly after the Summit, the IDB announced that its entire lending program for the next five years would be in support of Summit commitments (approximately US\$40 billion at the Bank's present, sustainable level of annual lending). The mandates provided by the Board of Governors of the IDB coincide with the priorities endorsed by Leaders in the Summit process. Canada has also taken a leadership role in

