

Agriculture Canada and the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) have entered into technical cooperation agreements with Colombia. CIDA is sponsoring Canadian petroleum experts to *ECOPETROL* and has a line of contributions with the same national firm.

From the Canadian perspective, Colombia is a market of great size, sophistication, and economic vitality. Opportunities for expansion of bilateral trade abound. Over the past several years, the pursuit of major infrastructure projects by Canadian business has expanded from hydroelectric power, mining and gas transmission to railway transportation, rural telecommunications and thermal power.

Canada continues to work actively to promote the export of high-technology, value-added products to the Colombian market. A stable, well-managed local economy augurs well for increased market penetration in the mid 1990's. However, the unstable security situation in Colombia continues to warrant caution when travelling to the country.

Colombia is actively trying to attract foreign investment in its fast developing petroleum, mining, industrial, transportation, communications and tourism sectors. A number of Build-Own-Operate-Transfer (B.O.O.T.) projects are being proposed.

Canada and Colombia are working towards the negotiation of Foreign Investment Protection and Double Taxation Agreements.