from small and medium-sized enterprises' (SMEs') requirements for accounts receivable credit to the risks faced by multi-national corporations (MNCs) making billion dollar commitments.

• Political/Economic Risk - India's political and economic environment has certain inherent risks. These include the stability of the government, regional tensions, communal strife, the pace of economic reforms, and India's fiscal situation. While the situation has improved dramatically over the past three years on almost all these fronts, the continuing political/economic risk is reflected in the fact that the major international credit agencies still have not granted India an investment grade rating for their long term debt. However, Moody's recently upgraded their short term debt to Investment grade.

## VI. Capturing the Opportunities

The Focus India Strategy aims to enhance Canada's economic and trade prospects with India by having a positive impact on the aforementioned strategic issues. There are a number of tools, mechanisms and initiatives within the scope of the strategy which can help Canadian governments and business to address these issues through:

- Political Relations
- Economic/Trade Relations
- Business Development Initiatives
- Canadian and Indian Business Organizations
- Financing

This document outlines options available to Canadian governments and business and suggests how these devices can be used to address the relevant issues and promote Canadian interests.

Page 6 Focus: India