This is the second report on Canada's trade policies by the GATT Secretariat; the first was released in July 1990. The trade policies of GATT members are regularly examined under the Trade Policy Review Mechanism (TPRM), a process agreed to by GATT Contracting Parties at the Montreal mid-term review of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations in December 1988.

The purpose of the TPRM is to improve the multilateral surveillance of national trade policies and to improve transparency within the international trading system.

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