## National Treatment

This expression refers to the extension to imported goods of a treatment no less favourable than that accorded to domestic products with respect to internal taxes, laws, regulations and requirements. GATT members are obliged to accord to one another "national treatment" with respect to internal measures that can affect trade.

NEP

National Energy Program. Program adopted by the Government of Canada in 1979 to increase Canadian control and ownership of the energy industry and stimulate exploration and exploitation of Canada's energy resources in a planned and coherent manner. Its more nationalistic elements strained Canada-U.S. relations and, together with FIRA, stood as symbols of Canadian economic nationalism. Many of its more objectionable principles were withdrawn in 1985-86.

Newly Industrializing Countries (NICs)

Advanced developing countries whose industrial production exports have grown rapidly in recent years. Examples include Brazil, Hong Kong, Korea, Mexico, Singapore, and Taiwan.

Non-Market Economy

A national economy or a country in which the government seeks to determine economic activity largely through a mechanism of central planning, as in the Soviet Union, in contrast to a market economy that depends heavily upon market forces to allocate productive resources. In a "non-market" economy, production targets, prices, costs, investment allocations, raw materials, labor, international trade and most other economic aggregates are manipulated within a national economic plan drawn up by a central planning authority, and hence the public sector makes the major decisions affecting demand and supply within the national economy. (See also State-Trading Countries).

Non-Tariff Barriers or Measures Government measures or policies other than tariffs which restrict or distort international trade. Examples include import quotas, discriminatory government procurement practices and measures to protect intellectual property. Such measures have become relatively more conspicuous impediments to trade as tariffs have been reduced during the period since World War II.