

and forced nations such as Canada, Chile and Mexico to pursue their own common trade agreements. The commitment of the United States to hemispheric integration embodied a dramatic turnabout in U.S. policy, since prior to the 1980s the United States had been either hostile or disinterested in integration, preferring a hub and spokes model of bilateralism with the United States as the hub. In the 1980s, that changed, and such actions as the Caribbean Basin Initiative of the Reagan Administration, the Enterprise for the Americas initiative of the Bush Administration (1990), the U.S.-Canada Free Trade Agreement (1989) and the North American Free Trade Agreement (1994) were concrete manifestations of the new U.S. orientation.

Within the Caribbean and Latin America the commitment to economic integration has had a longer historical tradition, although efforts have also been marred by lack of success in the past. The 1960s and 1970s witnessed a number of integrationist initiatives. The Central American countries came together in the Central American Common Market (CACM)²; Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela concluded the Andean Pact; a number of Caribbean countries initially formed the Caribbean Free Trade Association (CARIFTA) which has now been transformed into the Caribbean Community (CARICOM)³. The Southern Cone nations formed Mercosur - the Southern Common Market - although Chile remained aloof from the organization.⁴ The Latin American Free Trade Association has also been transformed into the Latin American Integration Association (ALADI), a more accurate reflection of the organization's hemispheric agenda. More recently, Mexico, Colombia and Venezuela have come together as the G-3 for systematic common

²Central American Common Market: Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua.

³CARICOM: Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Guyana, Grenada, Jamaica, Montserrat, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago.

⁴Mercosur: Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay, Uruguay.