

WHAT ARE CANADA'S GOALS FOR APEC IN 1997?

Canada takes the helm of APEC at a time of **implementation and follow-through** to produce **measurable results**. In particular:

- We will solidify progress towards **liberalizing trade and investment**, through full implementation of the Individual Action Plans (IAPs) of each APEC economy. We will also take further measures by working with others to revise and improve our IAPs, to ensure all member economies are on the right track to the 2010/2020 dates for liberalization. APEC is also part of a larger whole, and will continue to support the work programs of the **World Trade Organization (WTO)**. Our activities in this regard complement bilateral, regional and other multilateral efforts on trade liberalization.
- We will ensure APEC reflects what the private sector wants from government. For instance, APEC can help **facilitate business activity and reduce the cost** of doing business by: making customs processes easier; improving the accessibility of government procurement systems; and, working towards comparable standards that will allow better flow of products and professionals in the region. These areas have been identified by Canadian business, especially small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), as crucial elements to their continued growth and expansion into regional markets.