

countries needed to reach a deal that addresses the most harmful distortions in the international trading system, particularly trade-distorting agricultural subsidies.

In the WTO agriculture negotiations, Canada is seeking to level the international playing field for our producers and processors through the elimination of export subsidies, the substantial reduction of trade-distorting domestic support, and real and significant market access for all agri-food products. In non-agriculture market access negotiations, Canada is seeking improved access to markets of interest for our exporters, including reduced customs tariffs for all non-agricultural goods and tariff elimination in some sectors. Sectors of interest to Canada include fish products, environmental goods, forest products, chemicals and raw materials.

In services negotiations, Canada is seeking increased and more secure access to foreign services markets for professional, business, financial, telecommunications, computer and environmental services, as well as more transparent and predictable regulatory environments abroad. In rules negotiations, Canada supports improving anti-dumping and/or countervail disciplines to reduce the scope for abuse; strengthening subsidy disciplines, particularly to ensure fair competition for Canadian exporters in foreign markets; and clarifying rules on regional trade agreements. In trade facilitation negotiations, Canada's priority is to secure strong, binding rules governing trade facilitation in a manner that is both practical and meaningful to traders—the goal is to build on existing WTO obligations in a way that maximizes transparency and streamlines customs procedures.

Canada is also seeking an outcome to the Doha round that strikes a balance between development objectives and developing countries' concerns, on one hand, and Canadian commercial interests, on the other. We must ensure that the negotiations make a significant contribution to the development prospects of WTO members and lead to better integration of developing countries into the world trading system.

In pursuing Canada's trade policy, the Government of Canada will continue to press for an ambitious outcome to the Doha round that will have tangible benefits for Canada. To consolidate support for this policy domestically, the Government is engaging stakeholders—including various levels of government,

businesses and non-governmental organizations—to obtain their views and build awareness of the benefits of trade liberalization through the WTO process. As part of this effort, the Government's trade policy website (<http://www.international.gc.ca/tna-nac>) will continue to provide up-to-date information on the status of the negotiations and to invite public comments on negotiating priorities and objectives.

## **WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION AGREEMENT ON GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT**

To take advantage of the significant potential for international trade represented by the hundreds of billions of dollars spent annually on government procurement worldwide, Canada has pursued market access in the WTO. Increased sectoral coverage and a reduction of discriminatory barriers in the United States and other key markets would create significant opportunities for Canadian exporters.

Canada, along with 37 other countries, is party to the WTO Agreement on Government Procurement (AGP). The AGP provides the basis for guaranteed access for Canadian suppliers to the United States, European Union, Japan and other key markets. Canada continues to pursue greater and more secure market access through the AGP. The ongoing review of the AGP, with a mandate to expand coverage, eliminate discriminatory provisions and simplify the Agreement, remains a priority.

## **ACCESSIONS OF NEW COUNTRIES TO THE WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION**

Canada continues to play an active role in the WTO accession process. Our goals are twofold:

- secure more open, non-discriminatory and predictable access for Canadian exports of goods and services; and
- achieve transparent and rules-based trade regimes in new markets, thus contributing to global economic stability and prosperity.