

MFN: Most-favoured-nation treatment (Article I of the GATT 1994). Requires countries not to discriminate between goods on the basis of country of origin or destination. (*NPF : Traitement de la nation la plus favorisée*)

NAFTA: North American Free Trade Agreement, involving Canada, the United States and Mexico. Implemented January 1, 1994. (*ALENA : Accord de libre-échange nord-américain*)

NON-TARIFF BARRIERS (MEASURES):

Government measures or policies other than tariffs that restrict or distort international trade. Examples include import quotas and discriminatory government procurement practices. Such measures have become relatively more conspicuous impediments to trade as tariffs have been reduced during the period since World War II. (*Barrières non tarifaires - mesures*)

OECD: Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development. Paris-based organization of industrialized countries responsible for the study of and cooperation on a broad range of economic, trade, scientific and educational issues. (*OCDE : Organisation de coopération et de développement économique*)

QUOTA: Explicit limit on the physical amounts of particular products that can be imported or exported during a specified time period, usually measured by volume but sometimes by value. The quota may be applied on a "selective" basis, with varying limits set according to the country of origin, or on a global basis that specifies only the total limit and thus tends to benefit more efficient suppliers. (*Contingent*)

RULES OF ORIGIN: Laws, regulations and administrative procedures that determine the origin of a good. Rules of origin may be designed to determine the eligibility of a good for preferential access under the terms of a free trade agreement, or they may be designed to determine a good's country of origin for various purposes. A decision by a customs authority on origin can determine whether a shipment falls within a quota limitation, qualifies for a tariff preference or is affected by an anti-dumping duty. These rules can vary from country to country and from purpose to purpose. (*Règles d'origine*)

SMART BORDER ACTION PLAN: A 30-point Action Plan signed by Canada and the United States on December 12, 2001. The Plan provides for ongoing collaboration in identifying and addressing security risks while expediting the legitimate flow of people and goods across the border. The Plan has since been expanded to include two additional items for cooperative work: (1) biosecurity and (2) science and technology. (*Le plan d'action sur la frontière intelligente*)

SUBSIDY: An economic benefit granted by a government to producers of goods, often to strengthen their competitive position. The subsidy may be direct (a cash grant) or indirect (e.g. low-interest export credits guaranteed by a government agency). (*Subvention*)

TARIFF: A tax on merchandise imports. Levied either on an ad valorem (percentage of value) or on a specific basis (e.g. \$5 per 100 kilograms). Tariffs give price advantage to similar locally produced goods and raise revenues for government. (*Tarif de douanes*)

TARIFF RATE QUOTA: Two-stage tariff. Imports up to the quota level enter at a lower rate of duty; over-quota imports enter at a higher rate. (*Contingent tarifaire*)

TRANSPARENCY: Visibility and clarity of laws and regulations. (*Transparence*)

URUGUAY ROUND: Multilateral trade negotiations launched in the context of the GATT at Punta del Este, Uruguay, in September 1986, and concluded in Geneva in December 1993. Signed by ministers in Marrakesh, Morocco, in April 1994. (*Cycle d'Uruguay*)

WTO: World Trade Organization. Established on January 1, 1995, to replace the Secretariat of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, it forms the cornerstone of the world trading system. (*OMC : Organisation mondiale du commerce*)