

ABOUT THIS DOCUMENT

Opening Doors to the World: Canada's International Market Access Priorities – 2003 outlines the government's priorities for improving access to foreign markets for Canadian traders and investors through a range of multilateral, regional and bilateral initiatives in 2003. It also presents significant market-opening results from 2002 that will benefit Canadian business. Subjects range from Canada's broad negotiating objectives at the World Trade Organization, to the details of specific bilateral trade irritants. It is not intended as an exhaustive catalogue of government activities to improve access to foreign markets; neither is it a comprehensive inventory of foreign barriers to trade or investment.

The Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT) coordinated the preparation of this report with the assistance of its embassies and missions abroad, other federal government departments (especially Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, Finance Canada, Industry Canada and Natural Resources Canada), provincial governments and, of course, Canadians doing business abroad. Its contents are current up to mid-March 2003.

Opening Doors to the World: Canada's International Market Access Priorities – 2003 updates and expands on topics presented in the 2002 report, released by the Minister for International Trade in April 2002. While recognizing the vital importance of the U.S. market, the current approach reflects Canada's broader interests and the importance of work in such forums as the World Trade Organization to strengthen the disciplines governing global trade and investment flows.

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