

ITA: Information Technology Agreement. A WTO-based agreement endorsed by several Members that calls for the gradual elimination of most-favoured-nation tariffs on many information technology and telecommunication products. (*ATI : Accord sur la technologie de l'information*)

LIBERALIZATION: Reductions in tariff and other measures that restrict world trade, unilaterally, bilaterally or multilaterally. (*Libéralisation*)

MFN: Most-favoured-nation treatment (Article I of the GATT 1994) requiring 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 which restrict or distort international trade. Examples include import quotas, discriminatory government procurement practices, measures to protect intellectual property. 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: Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development. Paris-based organization of industrialized countries responsible for study of and co-operation on broad range of economic, trade, scientific and educational issues. (*OCDE : Organisation de coopération et de développement économique*)

OSAKA ACTION AGENDA: Adopted in 1995, the Osaka Action Agenda is the framework for implementing the Leaders' Declaration (adopted in Bogor, Indonesia, 1994) that APEC member economies would achieve the free and open trade within the region by 2010/2020. (*Programme d'action d'Osaka*)

QUOTA: Explicit limit on the physical amounts of particular products which 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 which only specifies the total limit and thus tends to benefit more efficient suppliers. (*Contingent*)

RULES OF ORIGIN: Laws, regulations and administrative procedures which determine a product's country of origin. 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. (*Règles d'origine*)

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 (low-interest export credits guaranteed by a Government agency, for example). (*Subvention*)

TARIFF: Customs duties on merchandise imports. Levied either on an ad valorem (percentage of value) or on a specific basis (e.g., \$5 per 100 kgs). Tariffs give price advantage to similar locally produced goods and raise revenues for the 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*)