FREE TRADE AGREEMENT BETWEEN CANADA AND

THE REPUBLIC OF COLOMBIA

CANADA and THE REPUBLIC OF COLOMBIA ("Colombia"), hereinafter referred to as "the Parties", resolved to:

STRENGTHEN the special bonds of friendship and cooperation among their peoples;

CONTRIBUTE to the harmonious development and expansion of world and regional trade and to provide a catalyst to broader international cooperation;

BUILD on their respective rights and obligations under the *Marrakesh Agreement Establishing the World Trade Organization* and other multilateral and bilateral instruments of cooperation;

PROMOTE hemispheric economic integration;

CREATE an expanded and secure market for the goods and services produced in their territories, as well as new employment opportunities and improved working conditions and living standards in their respective territories;

REDUCE distortions to trade;

ESTABLISH clear and mutually advantageous rules to govern their trade;

ENSURE a predictable commercial framework for business planning and investment;

ENHANCE the competitiveness of their firms in global markets;

UNDERTAKE each of the preceding in a manner that is consistent with environmental protection and conservation;