

- ◆ More than 80 percent of the value of Canada's trade with Africa (a region comprising 53 countries) is represented by trade with just five countries. On the export side, the top five countries are Algeria, South Africa, Morocco, Nigeria and Ghana. With respect to imports, the top five countries are Algeria, South Africa, Nigeria, Morocco and Côte d'Ivoire.
- ◆ The commodity mix of exports to African countries has changed substantially over the years. In 2000, the key exports were wheat, rail locomotives, lentils, sulphur, clothing and textiles, aircraft, and wood pulp. Exports of wheat have dominated the picture, representing slightly more than 50 percent of total exports in 2000. However, a number of Canada's commodity exports such as asbestos, sulphur, milk products and electrical apparatus have fallen precipitously—a major development that has impeded the growth in Canadian exports to the region. Manufactured products figure more prominently in Canada's exports to Africa than imports from Africa.
- ◆ On the import side, the dominant commodities are crude petroleum, non-crude petroleum oils, uranium, and agricultural products such as mandarins, cocoa beans and oranges. In 2000, imports of crude petroleum accounted for about two thirds of the value of Canada's merchandise imports from Africa. Most of the items among the top 25 import categories in 2000 are resource products such as platinum, metals and minerals, and cotton, in addition to oil and agricultural products mentioned above.
- ◆ The global inflow of FDI to Africa has been rather volatile in recent years. It surged by 72 percent in 1997 to US\$11 billion and seesawed over the next three years. In 2000, it declined more than 13 percent to US\$9.1 billion, reflecting a 50 percent drop in Angola, Morocco and South Africa, the main recipient countries of FDI. Africa's share in world FDI inflow is very small, at below 1 percent in 2000. As a percentage of total business investment, FDI inflow into Africa was at about 10 percent in 1999, the latest year for which information is available. This 10 percent ratio is about four times as high as in 1990, primarily because many countries in Africa have made substantial improvements to their investment climate.
- ◆ Direct investment transactions with Africa represented a small portion of Canada's global total in 2001, despite very rapid increases since 1988. In 2001, the stock of African direct investment in Canada was \$100 million, up sharply from just \$7 million in 1988. The \$100 million amount was about 0.03 percent of Canada's total FDI stock in 2001. The stock of Canadian direct investment in Africa amounted to \$2,819 million in 2001, which accounted for 0.7 percent of Canada's total CDIA. Over 1988-2001, CDIA in Africa recorded a twelvefold increase.