

**AGREEMENT ON LABOUR COOPERATION
BETWEEN
CANADA
AND
THE REPUBLIC OF PANAMA**

PREAMBLE

CANADA and **THE REPUBLIC OF PANAMA** hereinafter referred to as the "Parties":

RECALLING their resolve in the *Free Trade Agreement between Canada and the Republic of Panama* ("Canada-Panama FTA") to:

- protect, enhance and enforce basic workers' rights,
- strengthen cooperation on labour matters, and
- build on their respective international commitments on labour matters;

SEEKING to complement the economic opportunities created by the *Free Trade Agreement between Canada and the Republic of Panama* with the human resource development, protection of basic workers' rights, labour-management cooperation and continuous learning that characterize high-productivity economies;

REAFFIRMING the obligations of both countries as members of the International Labour Organization and their commitments to the International Labour Organization *Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work* and its *Follow-Up* of June 19, 1998;

AFFIRMING their continuing respect for each other's Constitution and law;

DESIRING to build on their respective international commitments;

RECOGNIZING the importance of mutual cooperation to strengthen actions on labour matters, including by:

- encouraging consultation and dialogue between labour, business and government,