

The eligibility considerations applied to transactions considered for Canada Account support are:

EDC's usual lending or insurance criteria (Canadian content, financial and technical capability of the exporter, technical and commercial viability of the project, etc);

The Government's general willingness to consider the country risk in question and the creditworthiness of non-sovereign borrowers; and

National interest consideration such as:

- Economic benefits and costs to Canada of the transaction;
- Importance of the transaction to the exporter;
- Foreign policy implications, including Canada's bilateral relationship with the country in question; and
- Importance of the market to Canada.

#### 5.0 RESPONSIBILITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

The determination of responsibility and accountability for the Canada Account derives from the Export Development Act. The legislation results in shared authorities, responsibilities and thus accountability.

The responsibility for all decisions to extend support under the Canada Account rests with Cabinet (i.e., the Governor-in-Council), based on a recommendation from the Minister for International Trade that the transaction is in the national interest.

The Department of External Affairs and International Trade Canada (EAITC) provides a supporting role to their Minister who is also responsible to Parliament for the EDC, and in so doing provides information and advice on specific transactions as well as on the overall policy of the Government with respect to the Canada Account.

EDC has the primary responsibility for the provision of information and advice on all Canada Account proposals, and has by law sole responsibility for the administration of all transactions once approved by Cabinet. The EDC executes the legal documents, disburses funds, manages the repayment flows, keeps the accounting records, etc. The costs to the EDC of administering these projects on behalf of the Government are recovered from the Canada Account receipts and recoveries through an arrangement authorized by the Minister of Finance, in accordance with the Act.