

be raised by either party. The TICA also establishes a framework for further training of South African trade policy specialists. With WTO negotiations resuming in agriculture, services and perhaps more broadly, and given South Africa's ongoing trade talks with the EU and with its Southern African Development Community neighbours, the TICA consultations will provide a forum in which to enhance our cooperation on multilateral trade issues and to learn first-hand about developments that could affect Canadian trade and investment interests in South Africa.

Canada has also signed a Foreign Investment Protection Agreement (FIPA) with South Africa. Any remaining outstanding issues respecting this Agreement are expected to be resolved shortly and it is anticipated that the FIPA will be in force in 1999.

In 1997, Canada hosted a training course for South African officials comprised of trade policy consultations between senior South African officials and their Canadian counterparts and temporary placements for the South African officials within Canada's Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade divisions.