

At the United Nations, Canada has encouraged the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) to develop closer co-operation at the technical level with the international financial institutions, the WTO, and the ILO in order to better understand the links between their work and civil, political, economic, social, and cultural rights, as well as the right to development. There are ongoing contacts between the OHCHR, the ILO, the IMF, and the WTO.

At the international financial institutions, we have also urged that the impact of globalization on individuals be addressed. This includes helping developing countries make better use of best practices in order to improve their social spending so that their most vulnerable citizens will benefit.

As well as encouraging and facilitating the development of voluntary codes of conduct for Canadian business, the Government is participating in the review of the 1977 OECD *Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises* to reflect today's understanding of the links between social and economic concerns, including in the area of human rights.

### **Trade and Development (recommendations 6, 41, 42, 44, and 45)**

The Government agrees with recommendations 41 and 42. Only the full participation of all countries in the multilateral system will ensure that the objectives of global growth and sustainable development are achieved. The Government is exploring ways to engage developing countries, in particular the least developed, in upcoming negotiations. These include supporting relevant training, encouraging multilateral institutions to provide advice and support, devising a better approach to special and differential measures, and supporting developing countries in their attempts to improve implementation and compliance with WTO undertakings. Expanded trade-related technical assistance programs from both bilateral and multilateral donors will be an important part of future international co-operation in this area. Canada recently co-sponsored a proposal to include Trade-Related Technical Assistance as a regularly funded budget item of the WTO.