



Canada and CARICOM leaders meet during the Summit of the Americas in Trinidad and Tobago, April 2009

### Canada-Americas Trade-Related Technical Assistance Program

Canada will provide \$18 million over five years to help countries that have signed, or are about to sign, free trade agreements with Canada. The Canada-Americas Trade-Related Technical Assistance Program (TRTA) will provide advice and training to partner governments and institutions. It is aimed at helping trade partners and potential trade partners in the Americas maximize the opportunities and benefits of increased trade and investment. The key results of this program will be increased two-way trade with Canada, improved market access and better regulatory reform, all of which will lead to

faster customs clearances and improved health, safety and labour standards for eligible countries wishing to trade with Canada.

### Support to the OAS' Hemispheric Electoral Assistance Initiative

Canada will contribute \$5 million to the OAS' Hemispheric Electoral Assistance Initiative, a program that seeks to help countries in Latin America and the Caribbean to improve the transparency and effectiveness of their elections, including organization, administration and spending. Support to the OAS will increase its ability to rapidly deploy election observers, leading to increased voter confidence in the democratic processes and institutions of their country.

This initiative will allow for increased flexibility in electoral mission management as well as leverage multi-donor funding. For the period 2008-2010 it is expected that there will be over 30 elections in the region, and the OAS will likely be invited to observe a number of them.