

## Membership in Regional Trade Blocs

Israel signed Free Trade Area agreements with the European Community (EC) in 1975 and with the United States in 1985, which effectively allow free access to these important markets by Israeli-based enterprises. Israel is also granted trade tariff preferences under the General System of Preferences by Australia, Austria, Canada, Finland, Japan, New Zealand, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland and the United States. Over 40 per cent of Israel's exports are to Europe and approximately 25 per cent are to the U.S., largely because of the Free Trade Agreements with these countries. These agreements also provide for duty-free access of EC and U.S. goods into Israel.

Israel is currently conducting negotiations with countries of the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) for similar reductions in tariffs and for greater market access. These agreements will ensure that the Israeli market continues to be a highly competitive one for Canadian exporters.

## Membership in International Organizations

Israel is a member of the following international organizations:

- United Nations (UN)
- World Health Organization (WHO)
- International Monetary Fund (IMF)
- Inter-American Development Bank (IDB)
- International Finance Corporation (IFC)
- International Labour Organization (ILO)
- Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO)
- International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)
- International Civil Aviation Agency (ICAA)
- International Development Association (IDA)
- General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT)
- World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)
- International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)
- United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
- International Bank for Reconstruction and Development [World Bank] (IBRD)