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## Regional and Bilateral Initiatives

### Trade and Investment Cooperation Arrangements (TICAs)

#### Andean Community (Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela)

Signed in Ottawa, on May 31, 1999

**TRADE AND INVESTMENT COOPERATION ARRANGEMENT  
BETWEEN  
THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA  
AND  
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE ANDEAN COMMUNITY**

**THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA AND THE GOVERNMENTS OF BOLIVIA, COLOMBIA, ECUADOR, PERU AND VENEZUELA**, member countries of the Andean Community, hereinafter called **Athe Parties@**;

**Inspired** by the firm desire to strengthen the ties of friendship and cooperation between Canada and the Andean Community;

**Determined** to cooperatively promote trade and investment, for the greater welfare of their peoples;

**Building** on their mutual commitment to the World Trade Organization (WTO);

**Reaffirming** their intention to conclude the negotiation of the Free Trade Area of the Americas no later than 2005;

**Noting** the importance they attach to strengthening trade relations and to investments in the Western Hemisphere;

**Recognizing** the importance of promoting a suitable environment for trade and investment between Canada and the Andean Community;

**Desiring** to ensure that the goals of trade liberalization and the principles of sustainable development are mutually supportive and consistent with World Trade Organization (WTO) and other international obligations;

**Recognizing** the significance of the promotion the International Labour Organization (ILO) Declaration of Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work to the economic welfare of all parties;

**Wishing** to foster the engagement of citizens in the process of trade liberalization;

**Wishing** to explore opportunities to strengthen bilateral and multilateral cooperation in areas of mutual interest, such as health, culture, indigenous communities and the environment;

**Have reached** the following understanding:

## **ARTICLE I**

### **OBJECTIVES**

The Parties will seek to:

- a. Intensify and strengthen economic relations between them, in particular, concerning trade in goods and services, investment and technology transfer;
- b. Promote the liberalization of trade and investment by identifying those measures that impede or distort trade and investment flows and by seeking their elimination;
- c. Promote and maintain an environment favourable to the development of trade and investment;
- d. Facilitate the greater participation and involvement of the private sectors of the Parties in strengthening trade and commercial cooperation;
- e. Promote the coordination of their respective positions in negotiations on the Free Trade Area of the Americas;
- f. Promote greater coordination in the World Trade Organization; and
- g. Promote regular sharing of information on trade and investment opportunities and other promotional initiatives.

## **ARTICLE II**

### **PRINCIPLES**

In carrying out the activities specified in this Arrangement, the Parties reaffirm that the promotion of trade and investment between them will be in conformity with the principles and obligations of the World Trade Organization and in accordance with the principles and objectives underlying the FTAA negotiations as stipulated in the Ministerial Declaration of San José and the Declaration of Santiago.

The Parties shall also consider the differences in degree of economic development and the size of their respective economies.

## **ARTICLE III**

### **CONSULTATIVE GROUP**

1. The Parties establish a trade and investment consultative group, hereinafter called the Consultative Group, consisting of the

ministers responsible for international trade or their representatives, in order to ensure compliance with this Arrangement and its objectives, in particular, the implementation of the Action Plan attached hereto. The Consultative Group may periodically modify the Action Plan.

To support their participation, the member countries of the Andean Community may call on the Office of the Secretary General of the Andean Community for assistance.

2. The Consultative Group shall meet periodically, with regular meetings every 18 months. The meetings of the Consultative Group will alternate between members of the Andean Community and Canada or may be held in any other agreed-upon location. Special meetings may be called at the request of any of the Parties.
3. The Parties may consult, using their own internal mechanisms, the private sector in their respective countries on matters related to the work of the Consultative Group. The Consultative Group may invite representatives of the private sector of the Parties to express their opinions on subjects of interest to them. The Parties shall notify each other of the participation of private-sector representatives before the meetings of the Consultative Group take place.
4. The Parties may hold consultations on any matter related to trade relations and investments. These consultations shall take place promptly.

#### **ARTICLE IV**

##### **EXPANSION OF TRADE AND INVESTMENT**

1. The Parties shall promote the expansion of trade in goods and services between them, as well as investments, in accordance with the annexed Action Plan.
2. The Parties shall examine all questions set out in the Action Plan influencing economic relations between the Parties, including multilateral and plurilateral questions of common interest arising in appropriate fora.
3. In order to stimulate expansion of trade and investment, the Parties shall promote regular sharing of information on trade and investment opportunities and other promotional initiatives, including, where possible, business contacts, in accordance with the annexed Action Plan.

#### **ARTICLE V**

##### **FINAL CLAUSES**

1. Nothing in this Arrangement affects the respective rights and obligations of either Party to the other Party under Agreements, Conventions or other instruments to which they are both Parties, either individually or collectively.

2. This Arrangement may be amended by the written concurrence of both Parties.
3. This Arrangement shall take effect on signature and shall remain in force unless terminated by mutual consent of the Parties or by either of the Parties on 180 days= written notice to the other Party.

**Done** in six original copies at Ottawa on this 31<sup>st</sup> day of May, 1999, in English, French and Spanish, the version in each language being equally valid.

#### **ACTION PLAN**

1. This Action Plan constitutes an integral part of the Trade and Investment Cooperation Arrangement between the Government of Canada and the Andean Community signed in Ottawa on the 31<sup>st</sup> day of May 1999, and comprises the following priorities. This Action Plan will be reviewed periodically and revised, as appropriate, by the Consultative Group.
  - a. Expansion of trade and strengthening of economic cooperation:
    - ≍ define options and appropriate actions to promote greater market access for goods and services;
    - ≍ explore opportunities to review market access under existing tariff programs;
    - ≍ continue negotiations on Foreign Investment Protection Agreements and Double Taxation Agreements between Canada and the countries of the Andean Community;
    - ≍ identify opportunities for technical cooperation on customs and taxation;
    - ≍ consult and, as appropriate, coordinate activities related to the negotiation and implementation of the Free Trade Area of the Americas;
    - ≍ coordinate, as appropriate, activities related to the World Trade Organization and other appropriate fora on any issue of common interest
  - b. Promotion of trade and investment:
    - ≍ exchange information on international trade and on business and investment opportunities in all economic sectors;
    - ≍ promote participation of small and medium-sized businesses in bilateral trade and economic cooperation;
    - ≍ promote business missions, trade fairs, strategic alliances, symposia, conferences and technical presentations;
    - ≍ promote efforts of the private sector of both Parties in third-

country markets;

- ⌘ promote joint ventures in the field of environmental technologies.

c. Cooperation:

- ⌘ Cooperation between the public bodies responsible for trade and the agencies of the Parties that promote foreign trade, so as to make greater use of the General Preferential Tariff (GPT).
- ⌘ Technical assistance and training of experts, officials, students and technicians, as appropriate, in order to meet the requirements of the markets of the Parties.

**DONE** in six original copies in Ottawa, this 31st day of May 1999, in the English, French and Spanish languages, each version being equally valid.

**FAIT** en six copies originales à Ottawa, ce 31e jour de mai 1999, en langues française, anglaise et espagnole, chaque version étant également valide.

**HECHO** en seis copias originales en Ottawa, este 31 de mayo de 1999, en español, inglés y francés, siendo cada versión igualmente válida.

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FOR THE GOVERNMENT FOR THE ANDEAN COMMUNITY

OF CANADA AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE

REPUBLIC OF COLOMBIA

POUR LE GOUVERNEMENT POUR COMMUNAUTÉ ANDINE ET LE DU  
CANADA GOUVERNEMENT DE LA

RÉPUBLIQUE DE LA COLOMBIE

POR EL GOBIERNO POR LA COMUNIDAD ANDINA Y EL DE CANADA  
GOBIERNO DE LA REPÚBLICA

DE COLOMBIA

Hon. Sergio Marchi H.E. Martha Lucia Ramirez

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FOR THE GOVERNMENT FOR THE GOVERNMENT

OF THE REPUBLIC OF PERU OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOLIVIA

POUR LE GOUVERNEMENT POUR LE GOUVERNEMENT

DE LA RÉPUBLIQUE DU PÉROU DE LA RÉPUBLIQUE DE LA BOLIVIE  
POR EL GOBIERNO DE LA POR EL GOBIERNO DE LA  
REPÚBLICA DE PERU REPÚBLICA DE BOLIVIA

H.E. Hernan Couturier-Mariategui H.E. Rene Soria Galvarro Haensel

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FOR THE GOVERNMENT FOR THE GOVERNMENT  
OF THE REPUBLIC OF ECUADOR OF THE REPUBLIC OF  
VENEZUELA

POUR LE GOUVERNEMENT POUR LE GOUVERNEMENT  
DE LA RÉPUBLIQUE DE DE LA RÉPUBLIQUE DU  
L'ÉQUATEUR VENEZUELA

POR EL GOBIERNO DE LA POR EL GOBIERNO DE LA  
REPÚBLICA DE ECUADOR REPÚBLICA DE VENEZUELA

H. E. Manuel Pesantes Simon Faraco

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