



CANADA'S REGIONAL ARRANGEMENTS: Advances and Challenges

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OUTLINE OF PRESENTATION

Canada's Regional Policy in the 1990s

- Canada's early bilateral/regional agreements (Canada-US FTA, NAFTA)
- Canada-Chile FTA (1996)
- Canada-Costa Rica FTA (2001)
- Key features of agreements

Current initiatives

- Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA)
- Canada-Singapore talks
- Other initiatives: Canada-Central America Four (Honduras, Nicaragua, El Salvador, Guatemala); Canada-Caribbean Common Market; Canada-European Free Trade Area (EFTA)
- Objectives, advances, and current status

Canada's trade policy challenges

- Resources
- Engagement of the business sector
- Public opinion
- Trends in the global economy

Conclusions

- Not a "one-size-fits-all" approach to regional agreements
- Regional agreements complementary, not substitutes, to multilateral agreements
- WTO/new round of multilateral talks priority

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