

Impact Assessment of Trade: Whose Business Is It? International Association of Impact Assessment Vancouver, *April 27, 2004* 

# Canada's Framework for Environmental Assessment of Trade Negotiations

Thomas Gillmore, Senior Policy Advisor, Environmental Policies & Sustainable Development Strategies Division, Foreign Affairs Canada

www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/sustain/menu-en.asp

## **Overview of presentation**

- Brief Background on EA of Trade Negotiations
- Key public participation elements
- Consulting Canadians on EA of trade
- Nature of inputs thus far
- Opportunities for improvement/ lessons to be shared?

## EA Framework: Background

2001 Framework for Conducting Environmental Assessments of Trade Negotiations

- 2 objectives: inform negotiators and address public concerns
- Establishes a process and methodology
- Domestic focus, environmental effects
- Environmental analysis flows from economic analysis
- Consultative approach

## **Public Participation Elements**

- Engagement: Federal departments and agencies, SAGITs, C-Trade, and the public
- Mechanisms: Canada Gazette notices, Web site postings, Press Releases, Direct Notices, other consultations as appropriate

- Timing: announce intention to conduct EA, release of Initial, Draft, and Final EAs
- Duration: determined as appropriate +/- 60 days

Consulting Canadians on the EA
of Trade
\* Notices of Intent
\* Initial EA s issued
\* Minimal input received thus far

**Opportunities for Improvement/** Lessons to be learned Transparency and public access Resource constraints Roles and responsibilities Managing expectations



#### Summary.

Method and process for conducting EAs of trades negotiations established Contributes to enhanced coordination of policy development Opportunities for public engagement Modest beginnings: incremental steps www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/tna-nac/sociale.asp#environment