| **Individual Action Plan Update for Canada for 2012** |
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| ***Highlights of recent policy developments which indicate how Canada is progressing towards the Bogor Goals and key challenges it faces in its efforts to meet the Goals.*** |
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| IAP Chapter (and Sub-Chapter and Section Heading, if any) | **Improvements made since 2010 IAP** | **Further Improvements Planned** |
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| Tariffs | On October 1, 2010, the Government of Canada announced the implementation of a new duty remission framework for imported cargo vessels, tankers and large-sized ferry-boats which will lead to estimated annual customs duties savings of $25 million.  On November 27, 2011, the Department of Finance announced the elimination of a further 70 tariffs on items used in manufaturing. Since 2009 the Canadian government has eliminated customs duties on more than 1800 tariff items. |  |
| Website for further information: | <http://www.gazette.gc.ca/rp-pr/p2/2010/2010-10-13/html/sor-dors202-eng.html>  <http://www.fin.gc.ca/n11/11-123-eng.asp>  <http://www.canadagazette.gc.ca/rp-pr/p2/2011/2011-12-07/html/sor-dors260-eng.html> |  |
| Contact point for further details: |  |  |
| ***Non-Tariff Measures*** | No new information to report |  |
| Website for further information: |  |  |
| Contact point for further details: |  |  |
| ***Services*** | No new information to report |  |
| *Website for further information:* |  |  |
| *Contact point for further details:* |  |  |
| ***Investment*** | Pursuant to the Investment Canada Act, new thresholds for review for WTO member investors, or where a Canadian business is ultimately controlled by a WTO member (other than a Canadian) prior to its acquisition, must be determined and become effective on January 1 of each year. The amount is equivalent to the growth in Nominal Gross Domestic Product at market prices as published by Statistics Canada for specified periods, multiplied by the amount determined for the previous year.  The amount for the year 2011 is 312 million dollars and the amount was published in the Canada Gazette Part I on February 12, 2011, page 238. | It is expected that the review threshold for 2012 will be 330 million dollars. The official amount will be published in the Canada Gazette in early 2012. |
| Website for further information: | <http://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/ica-lic.nsf/eng/home> |  |
| Contact point for further details: |  |  |
| ***Standards and Conformance*** | * The Standards Council of Canada (SCC) accredits Canada’s standards-development organizations and approves National Standards of Canada. In addition, SCC accredits over over 400 conformity assessment bodies, which test or certify millions of products or services or systems for the Canadian and international marketplace. * Canada (through) SCC maintained strategic participation in International Organisation for Standardisation (ISO) and International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) technical committees.  The total number of Canadians participating in international standards development committees increased from 2,648 to 2,758 by March 31st, 2011 * The total number of Canadian federal government employees involved in international standards development increased from 378  to 401, by March 31st, 2011. * SCC signed a cooperation arrangement with the Mongolian Agency for Standards and Technology and renewed its cooperation arrangement with the Standardization Administration of China (SAC). * SCC continues to be actively involved in a number of multilateral accreditation arrangements, including the Internatioanl Accreditation Forum (IAF), the International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC), the Pacific Accreditaion Cooperation (PAC), and the Asia-Pacific Laboratroy Accreditation Cooperation (APLAC). * Canada maintained its international influence with the election of SCC’s CEO to ISO’s Technical Management Board and the election of Canadian candidates to the IEC standards management board and the IEC Council Board. | Canada’s goal is to continue to increase the harmonization between new Canadian standards and those adopted by international organisations such as the ISO and the IEC, whenever appropriate. |
| Website for further information: | <http://www.scc.ca/>  <http://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/tpr_e/tp346_e.htm> |  |
| Contact point for further details: | [info@scc.ca](mailto:info@scc.ca) |  |
| ***Customs Procedures***  *Measures to Secure Trade* | On June 25, 2010, the Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) signed three Mutual Recognition Arrangements (MRAs) with customs organizations in Japan, Singapore and South Korea. MRAs allow customs administrations to work together to improve their capability to target high risk shipments while expediting legitimate cargo. |  |
| *Website for further information:* | <http://www.cbsa.gc.ca/media/release-communique/2010/2010-06-25-eng.html> |  |
| *Contact point for further details:* | [pip-pep@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca](mailto:pip-pep@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca) |  |
| **Customs Procedures**  *Use of Information Technology and Automation* | On November 1st, 2010, the Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) announced the implementation of the first stage of the eManifest initiative. Electronic data interchange (EDI) systems are now available for highway carriers who can transmit their pre-arrival cargo and conveyance data to the CBSA before arriving at the border. In 2011, the eManifest Portal was introduced by the CBSA to allow highway and rail carriers, freight forwarders and marine mode importers to electronically transmit their pre-arrival information through the Internet. The eManifest Portal was developed primarily for small- to medium-sized enterprises to facilitate their compliance and ease the transition from paper reporting to pre-arrival electronic data transmission. | When fully implemented, eManifest will be a virtually paperless process that starts before shipments reach the border. The collection and risk assessment of advance commercial information, sent electronically to the CBSA, will allow low-risk shipments to be identified prior to arrival and processed in a more efficient manner upon arrival in Canada. |
| Website for further information: | <http://www.cbsa.gc.ca/prog/manif/menu-eng.html> |  |
| Contact point for further details: | [eManifest-manifestelectronique@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca](mailto:eManifest-manifestelectronique@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca) |  |
| ***Intellectual Property Rights*** | On September 29, 2011 the Government of Canada introduced Bill C-11 the *Copyright Modernization* Act. This legislation: implements the rights and protections of the World Intellectual Property Organization Internet Treaties, which brings Canada in line with international standards; gives copyright owners the tools they need to combat piracy; clarifies the roles and responsibilities of Internet Service Providers (ISPs) and search engines; promotes creativity and new methods of teaching in the classroom by providing greatly expanded exceptions for education; provides legal protection for businesses that choose to use technological protection measures or "digital locks", to protect their intellectual property as part of their business models; encourages innovation by eliminating some uncertainty facing innovative businesses; and gives consumers the ability to, among other things, record their favourite TV shows to watch at a convenient time using the technology of their choice, put music from a CD on their MP3 player, or create a mash-up and post it on a social media website. Second Reading on Bill C-11 began in the House of Commons on October 18, 2011 and the Government intends to deliver on its commitment to move quickly to modernize the *Copyright Act*. |  |
| Website for further information: | http://www.parl.gc.ca/HousePublications/Publication.aspx?Language=E&Mode=1&DocId=5144516 |  |
| Contact point for further details: |  |  |
| ***Competition Policy*** | In 2009, the Canadian Parliament passed amendments to the Competition Act that included, among other things: reforms to the merger review process; amendments to the conspiracy provisions; the introduction of financial penalties for abuse of dominance; higher penalties for deceptive marketing and for obstruction and non-compliance; and the repeal of various industry-specific and pricing practices provisions. The amendments came into force on March 12, 2009, with the exception of the reforms to the competitor collaboration provisions (i.e., amendments related to sections 45 and 90.1), which came into force on March 12, 2010.  To provide transparency and predictability with respect to the enforcement of the *Competition Act*, the Competition Bureau has developed or revised many of its guidance documents.  On December 15, 2010, Bill C-28, Canada's Anti-Spam Law received Royal Assent. The intent of the legislation is to deter the most damaging and deceptive forms of spam that impact Canadians and Canadian businesses. The legislation contains amendments to the Competition Act that will promote greater truth in online advertising for the benefit of consumers, legitimate businesses, and the economy.  The new law will be enforced by three organizations, the [Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission](http://www.crtc.gc.ca/eng/home-accueil.htm), the Competition Bureau, and the [Office of the Privacy Commissioner](http://www.priv.gc.ca/index_e.cfm). It also includes a private right of action that will allow Canadian consumers and businesses to take civil action against those who violate the legislation.  The Anti-Spam Law is not in force at this time. A specific date for coming into force will be set in the coming months. |  |
| Website for further information: | 2009 amendments: <http://www.competitionbureau.gc.ca/eic/site/cb-bc.nsf/eng/h_03036.html>  Guidance documents:  ***http://www.competitionbureau.gc.ca/eic/site/cb-bc.nsf/eng/h\_00139.html***  Canada’s Anti-Spam Law: http://fightspam.gc.ca/eic/site/030.nsf/eng/home |  |
| Contact point for further details: |  |  |
| ***Government Procurement*** | On December 15, 2011, Canada welcomed the successful conclusion of negotiations in Geneva to modernize the World Trade Organization’s Agreement on Government Procurement (GPA) and expand market access opportunities for the 15 parties—covering a total of 42 WTO members—to the agreement.  In addition, since 2007, Canada has negotiated a number of Government Procurement Chapters in new Free Trade Agreements, including those with Peru, Panama and Colombia. The Government Procurement Chapter negotiated with Chile concluded in 2006 and came into force in 2008. In February 2010, Canada concluded the Canada-U.S. Agreement on Government Procurement, which for the first time includes commitments at the sub-federal level. Specifically, Canada now includes entities from two territories and all ten provinces under its GPA commitments with respect to goods, services and suppliers from the U.S. This coverage has now been extended to most other GPA parties with the conclusion of those negotiations, pending eventual ratification. The thresholds for procurements subject to international trade agreements are updated every two years and published by the Treasury Board Secretariat , most recently in January 2012. |  |
| Website for further information: | http://www.tbs-sct.gc.ca/pubs\_pol/dcgpubs/ContPolNotices/2011/12-19-eng.asp |  |
| Contact point for further details: |  |  |
| ***Deregulation/Regulatory Review*** | No new information to report |  |
| Website for further information: |  |  |
| Contact point for further details: |  |  |
| ***Implementation of WTO Obligations/ROOs*** | No new information to report |  |
| Website for further information: |  |  |
| Contact point for further details: |  |  |
| ***Dispute Mediation*** | No new information to report |  |
| Website for further information: |  |  |
| Contact point for further details: |  |  |
| *Mobility of Business People* | 55 countries and territories are visa exempt for travel to  Canada.  The following APEC economies qualify for a visa exemption for travel to Canada : Australia, Brunei  Darussalam, Hong Kong,  Japan, Korea, New Zealand,  Papua New Guinea,  Singapore, the U.S., and Chinese Taipei\* (since November 2010)  \*holders of an ordinary passport that contains a personal identification number  Canada continues to facilitate APEC Business Traveller Card (ABTC) members through special service counters at its eight major international airports.  Canada’s transitional membership has been extended until 2014*.* | Canada has committed to piloting a domestic ABTC scheme offering Canadian businessmen the same level of service that Canada currently offers other APEC economies  The pilot will be available to Canadian business travellers only.  The pilot will offer participants the same level of service currently offered to ABTC holders when they arrive in Canada. |
| *Website for further information:* | [*http://www.cic.gc.ca/visit*](http://www.cic.gc.ca/visit)  [*http://cbsa-asfc.gc.ca/media/facts-faits/064-eng.html*](http://cbsa-asfc.gc.ca/media/facts-faits/064-eng.html) |  |
| *Contact point for further details:* | Lily Ooi, Director, Trusted Travellers, Canada Border Services Agency | Lily Ooi, Director, Trusted Travellers, Canada Border Services Agency |
| *Official websites that gather economies’ information* | Statistics Canada is a federal government agency which produces statistics that help Canadians better understand their country—its population, resources, economy, society and culture. In addition to conducting a Census every five years, there are about 350 active surveys on virtually all aspects of Canadian life. In Canada, providing statistics is a federal responsibility. As Canada’s central statistical office, Statistics Canada is legislated to serve this function for the whole of Canada and each of the provinces and territories.  The Bank of Canada is the nation’s central bank,responsible for Canada’s monetary policy, bank notes, financial system and funds management. |  |
| Website for further information: | http://www.statcan.gc.ca  http://www.bankofcanada.ca |  |
| Contact point for further details: |  |  |
| ***Transparency*** | No new information to report |  |
| Website for further information: |  |  |
| Contact point for further details: |  |  |

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| **RTAs/FTAs** | | |
| ***-*** ***Description of current agreements and agreements under negotiation*** | Canada currently has 7 FTAs with 11 countries in force (of which Canada is working towards modernizing 3), has successfully concluded negotiations on an additional 3 FTAs (which are pending ratification), and is engaged in 9 ongoing negotiations, at various levels of progress.  Canada has 24 Foreign Investment Promotion and Protection Agreements in force and 12 under negotiation, as well as a range of other types of agreements and initiatives such as Science and Technology Cooperation Agreements and Air Agreements. |
| Website for further information: | Detailed information on all Canadian trade and investment agreements and negotiations can be found on the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade’s website at: http://www.international.gc.ca/trade-agreements-accords-commerciaux/index. |
| ***-*** ***Future plans*** | Canada has a number of other intiatives underway with key markets of interest, including a Joint Study with Japan on a possible Economic Partnership Agreement, and consultations with Trans-Pacific Partnership members on our possible participation in the negotiations. |
| Website for further information: |  |
| Contact point for further details: |  |

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| ***Other voluntary reporting areas*** | No new information to report |  |
| Website for further information: |  |  |
| Contact point for further details: |  |  |