

Canada of a natural resource that is produced in Canada is not rendered ineffective by reason of the unrestricted export of that natural resource; and that the export of any raw or processed material that is produced in Canada in circumstances of surplus supply and depressed prices is limited or kept under surveillance.

By means of import controls, the act is also intended to ensure an adequate supply in Canada of goods that are scarce in world markets, or subject to governmental controls in the countries of origin or to allocation by intergovernmental arrangement; to implement action taken under certain other specified federal acts; and to implement an intergovernmental arrangement or commitment. Other functions of this division are to advise exporters and importers on interpretation and requirements of the export control, area control and import control lists and regulations; to study the economic implications of the act; and to review control lists and practices.

The international bureaus (European bureau, Pacific, Asia and Africa bureau, and Western Hemisphere bureau) are focal points on matters affecting Canada's trade and economic relations with other countries and areas. Bureau responsibilities include development of Canada's international trade strategy, market development programs for individual countries and areas and maintenance and improvement of access for Canadian products to export markets. The bureaus are centralized sources of information on Canada's trade with specific countries or regions and they provide a regional perspective for matters of both international trade relations and export trade development. They also provide information, advice and guidelines to government agencies and to the business community on foreign government trade and economic regulations and practices; maintain contact, normally through Canadian posts abroad, with foreign markets and foreign governments on matters pertaining to markets for Canadian exports; and provide advice to the department, to other Canadian government agencies and to the Canadian business community on export market problems and opportunities.

The trade commissioner service has 88 trade offices in 65 countries. Its primary role is to promote Canada's export trade and to represent and protect its commercial interests abroad. Accordingly, a trade commissioner performs a variety of tasks: to act as an export marketing consultant; to bring foreign buyers into contact with Canadian sellers; to help organize trade fairs and trade missions; to recommend modes of distribution and suitable agents; and to report on changes in tariffs, exchange controls and other matters affecting Canada's trade with the countries to which he is accredited. He initiates programs to develop new markets for Canadian products, responds to inquiries from Canadian firms and provides advice to the visiting Canadian exporter. He also acts on behalf of the foreign programs of a number of federal government departments and undertakes agricultural reporting at specified posts. For a Canadian firm wishing to develop a market in his territory, the trade commissioner can supply information on product use, if any, local production and import data, and prospective users or agents.

The scheduled return of trade commissioners for official tours of Canada helps Canadian firms interested in the export trade. Trade associations are informed in advance of these visits so that appointments may be arranged by businessmen wishing to meet trade commissioners, through the trade commissioner service, trade associations, or one of the department's regional offices.

The office of overseas projects stimulates, develops and sustains Canadian participation in export projects other than pure commodity or equipment transactions exclusive to the interests of one industry sector or the direct sales of engineering consultant or Canadian construction services. These services do not normally come to the office unless such transactions are part of an integrated response with other firms to an export opportunity. The office works with the appropriate bilateral and multilateral agencies to develop those financing accommodations needed to support exports of goods and services.

The responsibility of the office includes identification, promotion and co-ordination of industry response to overseas project opportunities, and development of appropriate financial and risk-sharing facilities such projects demand. The office is the focus in the department for all capital and turnkey projects.