

**Canadian Intervention**  
**Industrial Development Intervention**  
**10:00 am – 1:00 pm, Thursday May 4, 2006**  
**Conference Room 4**

Thank you Mr. Chairman,

Canada has identified private sector development as a priority for international assistance based on the recognition that the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and, ultimately, poverty reduction, is not possible without a strong, dynamic private sector in developing countries to drive rapid and sustained growth of income and employment opportunities for the poor, and to enable developing countries to mobilize domestic and international financing for development.

To make a sustainable contribution to poverty reduction, growth must be led by the local private sector, ranging from firms and cooperatives in the formal sector to micro-entrepreneurs in the informal sector. Small and medium sized enterprises have the potential to play a major role in growth.

As such, Canada supports many joint efforts to help develop the local private sector in developing countries.

We contribute to the International Model Forest Network. To date, many model forests revolve around developing and strengthening small and medium sized enterprises within the resource sector and thus improving the local economy and key forest based industries.

Canada has worked with the oil and gas sector in parts of South America helping them to develop social guidelines and to relate harmoniously to communities and governments through dialogue and integration of social dimensions into their projects. Through this effort, Canada has worked to foster a better understanding of industrial development among indigenous peoples, improve mechanisms for including indigenous peoples in industry development plans, provide mechanisms for conflict resolution between industry and indigenous peoples and to promote a more equitable distribution of benefits of industrial development among all stakeholders.

Canada also participates in the Program for Building African Capacity for Trade. It is a joint programme provided by the International Trade Centre and Trade Facilitation Office Canada. This program targets primarily small and medium sized businesses and it provides practical assistance to enhance the capacity of the African private sector to do business internationally and to promote their exports.

And finally, Canada would like to highlight our successful “Sustainable Cities Initiative.” This initiative works directly with 16 cities on 5 continents to provide practical solutions to their industrial development needs. This program shares our considerable experience in the areas of eco-efficiency, corporate social responsibilities, the use of newer and

cleaner technologies, life cycle management, environmental management systems, and standards certification.

Mr. Chairman, with all that being said, Canada recognizes the importance of developing the local private sector so that there can be sustained growth, but it has to be done correctly. The examples of Canada's efforts in this area all come in the form of partnerships. Partnerships are effective in leveraging financing and technical expertise and for developing market contacts, which amongst others, is critical for the growth of any economy.

Partnerships provide a way for Governments and the private sector to collaborate when trying to grow an economy.

Thank you Mr. Chairman.