Evolution of Canada’s Labour Provisions

Submitted by: Canada
Labour Cooperation Agreements (LCAs)

Older Generation of LCAs:

- Canada-Chile (1997)
Labour Cooperation Agreements

New Generation of LCAs:
- Peru (August 2009)
- Colombia (August 2011)
- Jordan (October 2012)
- Panama (April 2013)
- Completed negotiations: Honduras, Dominican Republic (DR is without FTA)
- Ongoing or upcoming negotiations: EU, Ukraine, Morocco, India, CARICOM, South Korea, TPP, Japan
- Exploratory discussions: Thailand, Turkey

KEY ELEMENTS IN CANADA’S OLDER LCAS

- Emphasis on effective enforcement of labour laws with a commitment that labour laws will reflect fundamental principles
- Dispute settlement through transparent and independent third-party panels
- Ongoing cooperative relationship and technical cooperation to assist in capacity to meet obligations.
- Conclusion: emphasis on effective enforcement that can be challenged by a transparent dispute resolution mechanism.
Labour

CANADA’S NEW GENERATION OF LCAS

- Both a chapter in the FTA and a parallel side-agreement
- Obligation to reflect internationally-recognized principles in labour laws (FRW/Minimum standards/OSH/Migrants)
- Non-derogation clause so that weak labour enforcement is not used to attract trade/investment
- Increased transparency (complaints & Ministerial Council)
- Monetary assessments deposited in a cooperation fund
- Substantial technical cooperation provided.

THANK YOU