

access to the U.S. market will not be cut off by capricious or arbitrary action. The possibility of appeal of anti-dumping and countervail cases to an impartial panel on which Canada has equal representation will provide insurance against arbitrary decisions and keep the system free of political influence. The softwood lumber case would not have had the outcome it did if such a process had been in place.

In addition, the dispute settlement mechanism will have a "watchdog" effect that will discourage the filing of frivolous trade actions and the number of such complaints should drop.