

give them more careful attention to see what may be required. Furthermore there are important sectors where major impediments to trade remain, for example in agriculture, fisheries and resource products. We have an ambitious programme of work here in the OECD and in the GATT. If we are serious about our political commitments to the trading system we must inject a sense of renewed vigour into these activities. I consider we have a lot to gain, and even more to lose, if we fail to seize this opportunity and to accept our responsibilities.

We should, therefore, encourage the Organization to pursue the work underway on relatively new trade issues such as trade in services and in high-technology products as well as that related to competition, consumers and trade. As a major agricultural producer and exporter, we are actively involved in the work programme stemming from the Ministerial mandate in 1982; we trust that this will complement and eventually contribute to the GATT activities aimed at improving the conditions of agricultural trade. Canada attaches a high degree of importance to continuing work by the OECD on trade in fisheries in line with the mandate given by Ministers two years ago.

I consider that many of the problems which we are now identifying can only be resolved in a negotiating context. I believe our work in support of the objectives we have discussed can only be successful if a new negotiating conference in the GATT framework in an integral part of our plan. It is only by such a negotiation that some of our most complex and pressing problems can be satisfactorily addressed. But in order to arrive at that stage we must intensify our efforts to implement our existing commitments, most importantly that work we agreed in the GATT in November, 1982 and our efforts here to strengthen the trading system. In preparing for new negotiations we must work to develop a broad consensus among all major GATT contracting parties and ensure that we as Ministers provide direct guidance to this process. I am encouraged that a start towards such consensus building has been made at several meetings over the past year, called to consider broad trade issues, involving Ministers from both developed and developing countries.