

It is worth mentioning that we believe these are essential points for the Summit because there are three themes: the themes of democracy, prosperity and realizing human potential. There are many things that touch directly not only on economic policy but also on social policy, and we understand and believe that it is not possible to have an effective international trade system without great respect for the principles of law and human rights.

Before I pass it over to the Minister for International Trade, Mr. Chairman, let me say that it seems to me fundamental that those things that are required in order to have a strong international trading system, respect for the rule of law, an independent judiciary, freedom from corruption — political and bureaucratic — protection from criminal behaviour, protection of the person, those are also the fundamental requirements to have a society that respects human rights.

Furthermore, the mentality of a state that exercises its economic rights arbitrarily without due process, without review by an independent judiciary, is exactly the same mentality that will imprison individuals without due criminal process. And so the agendas, if you like, of human rights and economic growth very fundamentally overlap in many of the things that we are trying to do here today.

We look forward to receiving your thoughts.

