

(g) Tariffs:

Tariffs remain relatively high in specific areas (e.g. petrochemicals in the U.S., certain wood products in Japan, fisheries products in the EC). There are also important product areas where post-Tokyo Round duties will be low and where duty-free trade might be enlarged. In addition, Canada, the U.S., the EC, Japan and a number of other countries are working toward adoption of a common system of tariff nomenclature and related commodity classification.

(h) Non-Tariff Measures

Current work in the GATT has been directed at identifying remaining quantitative restrictions and other non-tariff measures maintained by contracting parties with the purpose of deciding if the affected trade could be freed up in further negotiations.

(i) Strengthening the Multilateral System

Possible changes to the institutional framework for trade co-operation could be pursued. This could include the further strengthening of GATT dispute settlement procedures and the development of a greater degree of co-ordination between international trade and financial institutions. There is also scope for more regular ministerial involvement in GATT affairs.

(j) Developing Countries

This will involve an examination of the scope for liberalizing trade for the benefit of developing countries, having regard to their development needs and continuing debt problems while, at the same time, securing increased obligations from the newly industrialized countries that continue to maintain unnecessarily high levels of protection.

36. At this stage nothing is a priori excluded from, or for that matter included in, the scope of the upcoming multilateral negotiations. The negotiations could cover all product sectors and the full array of tariff and non-tariff measures. They could also involve efforts to strengthen the institutional framework of the multilateral trading system and to protect the value of negotiated market access conditions.

37. There is, therefore, considerable scope in the new round to address access problems in our principal export markets and foster the development of internationally competitive industries. Canada requires, on the one hand, more secure and improved access to markets on the broadest