

Enhancing Canada's Trade with Europe in the MTN

In areas, such as agriculture, resource products and manufacturing, where the EC has, to a great extent, already adopted integrated common commercial policies vis-à-vis third countries, Canada will be working in the Uruguay Round to enhance trade and investment opportunities for Canadian producers and exporters. Canada will be seeking substantial reduction of EC tariffs and non-tariff barriers, such as restrictive government procurement practices, so that Canadians will have more equal competitive opportunities in the large European market on the basis of mutual advantage on both sides of the Atlantic.

In newer areas, such as trade in services and movement of capital, where the EC is still in the process of developing its common policies and regulations by 1992, Canada will join with other MTN participants in the Uruguay Round to develop new multilateral frameworks of rules. These new rules will build on the GATT principles of national treatment, non-discrimination, transparency and dispute settlement as they apply at present to trade in goods. Achieving such frameworks will strengthen our capacity to resist the threats of more protectionist concepts, such as sectoral reciprocity, being voiced by certain groups within the EC. Canada will also be seeking the extension of the GATT Code on Government Procurement to service sectors, such as telecommunications, which are not now covered by multilateral rules.

Preserving Canada's Rights under the GATT

Canada will closely monitor developments in the integration of the EC's internal market to ensure that the existing GATT rules and the various GATT agreements are fully respected. This will include, in particular, monitoring the harmonization of product standards and technical regulations within the EC. The existing GATT Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade provides for the application of national treatment to foreign products and suppliers in the development of new technical