

PRESSURES WHILE WE WORK TOGETHER TOWARDS FREER TRADE AND THE STIMULUS IT CAN PROVIDE TO ECONOMIC GROWTH. THE NEW TRADE ROUND MUST BE PARTICULARLY SENSITIVE TO THE NEEDS OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES LIKE THE MEMBERS OF ASEAN. AS WE SEE IT, A PRINCIPAL OBJECTIVE OF THE NEGOTIATIONS WILL BE TO INTEGRATE THE DEVELOPING WORLD MORE EFFECTIVELY INTO THE GATT SYSTEM.

CANADA BELIEVES IT IMPORTANT TO BEGIN THE PROCESS OF BRINGING SOME MEASURES OF MULTILATERAL DISCIPLINE TO INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN SERVICES. THIS IS BETTER THAN HAVING THE LARGEST ECONOMIES APPLY UNILATERAL RULES. OF COURSE, COMPLEX NEGOTIATIONS WILL BE INVOLVED AND WILL TAKE SOME TIME. HOWEVER, THE PROCESS MUST BEGIN AND CANADA BELIEVES THAT IT IS ONE OF THE MORE IMPORTANT SUBJECTS FOR THE NEXT MTN ROUND.

WE ALSO BELIEVE THAT THE ROUND MUST BE STRUCTURED TO ADDRESS THE SO-CALLED TRADITIONAL ISSUES, INCLUDING THOSE OF INTEREST TO ASEAN. IT IS NOT OUR WISH, NOR IS IT IN OUR INTEREST, TO NEGLECT ISSUES OF CONCERN TO OUR FRIENDS AND PARTNERS. THAT IS WHY IN OUR CONSULTATIONS WITH ASEAN OVER THE PAST YEAR, WE HAVE URGED THAT YOU ASSUME AN ACTIVE ROLE IN SHAPING THE NEGOTIATING AGENDA. IF WE TAKE ADVANTAGE OF IT, THE NEW ROUND CAN ADDRESS ALL SENSITIVE TRADE ISSUES.

.../7