

Responses to Public Consultations on Canada - Central America Free Trade Negotiations

January - February 2001

Volume II

Réponses aux consultations publiques en vue des négociations de libre-échange Canada - Amérique centrale janvier - février 2001

22	Province of Manitoba Ms. MaryAnn Mihychuk Minister of Industry, Trade and Mines	29 Jan. 2001	Province		<i>(Provincial jurisdiction, regional strategy, market access, services and investment, textiles, social issues)</i> - While FTAs provide export opportunities to exporters, they may also divert trade and investment and scarce political and negotiating resources. - Why are we negotiating with individual countries when we are already negotiating plurilaterally (FTAA)? Duplicate and overlapping agreements can lead to confusion and business uncertainty. - Do not see a compelling business case for this initiative. That said, we should only negotiate an FTA covering trade in goods. It would allow for the continuation of supply management systems and provide an opportunity for business facilitation measures. Services and investment should be left to the FTAA. - Must ensure that trading partners will maintain and enforce high labour and environmental standards. - GoC should adopt policies that complement trade liberalisation (ensure that displaced resources are re-employed through training, mobility and other social protection programs). - Consider the impact on import-sensitive sectors such as textiles and apparel.
23	Province of Ontario Mr. Al Palladini Minister of Economic Development and Trade	07 Feb. 2001	Province	For	<i>(Regional strategy, services and investment)</i> - Supports trade and investment initiatives that benefit exporters. - Establishing the FTAA is of greater importance. - Prepared to review any proposals regarding services and investment that go beyond the 1998 MOUTI.