

Our objectives in the Uruguay Round can be summarized as follows:

- First, we want to stop the drift of protectionism and the use of predatory trade practices;
- second, we want improved access to foreign markets;
- third, we want reform of the rules for agricultural trade - particularly with regard to subsidy practices;
- fourth, we want to tighten up the use of trade remedy laws;
- fifth, we want to strengthen the effectiveness of the GATT as an institution; and
- sixth, we want to ensure that the GATT adapts to changes in world trade. It must address the new issues of services, intellectual property and investment.

Canada approaches this round with a sense of urgency. GATT must be strengthened, it must adapt to today's world, and it must gain new credibility.

One way to move the process forward is to ensure that our negotiators are given greater Ministerial guidance.

Ministers will certainly need to review periodically the progress of the Geneva negotiations, just as we did earlier this week at the Lake Taupo Meeting in New Zealand.

Another way to push things along is to form strategic alliances on specific issues. The most notable leading up to the launch of the Uruguay round was the Group of 11 Agricultural Fair Traders which met at Australia's Initiative last August in Cairns.

In part, this alliance was a natural response to the power of the three major trading blocs, the EEC, the USA, and Japan. The success of the Cairns Group in ensuring a prominent place for agriculture on the MTN Agenda shows how the less powerful countries can wield greater influence if they work together.