



and the possibility of developing rules in the WTO framework. Based on discussions to date, WTO Members have reached the general conclusion that international investment has a positive impact on growth and development.

During 1999, Canada would like to see the Working Group focus more on identifying gaps in existing international investment rules. This will require in-depth assessments of the investment rules already incorporated into the WTO and into regional and bilateral investment agreements signed by developing and developed countries. Such an approach will assist the WTO General Council in making its recommendations on whether to undertake negotiations in the area of investment. Canada considers that this is ultimately required if we are to ensure an appropriate rules-based system. In anticipation of the possible negotiations, Foreign Affairs and International Trade is consulting with stakeholders across Canada to obtain their views.

Contributions to the consultation process, can be sent by e-mail, fax or mail:

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