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PART I

IMPLEMENTATION

Accelerated Tariff Elimination

The consolidated list of industry proposals put forward for the second round of accelerated tariff elimination was published in the Canada Gazette on October 6th, 1990. The list contains approximately 1,200 tariff items. The government has solicited industry requests for tariff reduction proposals and has reviewed these suggestions to determine which reductions would be in the national interest and generally supported by the concerned industries. The government is not reconsidering requests that were made in 1989 that met with opposition from Canadian producers unless there is a demonstrated change in circumstances.

Bilateral consultations are underway and are expected to conclude sometime in March. Implementation of the agreed changes to the Canadian and U.S. tariff schedules is July 1, 1991.

Temporary Entry

At its October 1990 meeting, the Canada-U.S. Trade Commission approved the addition of several new professions to the list of those covered by the FTA temporary entry provisions. The thirteen additions, which had gone through the normal regulatory process of publication in the Canada Gazette and a review after public comments were received, were put into place February 16, 1991.

The Commission approved new recommendations to include minimum educational requirements/alternative credentials for a number of professions already in Schedule 2 but for which credentials had not been previously established, and to add some professions. Both countries will now submit these proposed amendments to their domestic review processes.

Agriculture, Food and Beverage Working Groups

The Joint Monitoring Committee, which is composed of senior officials from Canada and the U.S.A. who supervise the progress of the working groups, will meet in March to review strategies and set out a work plan for 1991.