

Next November, in Geneva, will be held the first meeting of the GATT, at ministerial level, since 1973. This is a major international trade event which we have to prepare for and to the success of which Canada should attach the highest priority.

In my travels since taking on this portfolio nearly three years ago, I have seen Canadians successfully export to all parts of the world. My visits to countries in Asia, Latin America, the South Pacific, Africa and the Middle East in particular have convinced me that extensive opportunities for many Canadian products exist in these regions, and we need to ensure that our companies are internationally competitive in pursuing these markets.

I am anxious to review these developments with you and obtain your views."