

hear only one side -- the down side -- of the adjustment story. While we are saying that there will be some contraction and dislocation, we are also saying that there will be expansion and an increase in trade and employment opportunities as a result of the Agreement.

The purpose of the new Advisory Council on Adjustment will be to advise us on the best ways to help Canadian industries and workers on either side of the equation during the transition period.

The Council, which starts its work in February, will benefit from the input of members from business, labour and the academic community. In addition, we are asking the provinces if they have any views they would like to contribute to the Council.

That is the current agenda with respect to the Canada-U.S. Agreement.

Now, let me make several points about the Uruguay Round of GATT negotiations. As part of our two-track trade policy, this Government has actively and consistently promoted the multilateral trade negotiations (MTN). We welcome this Association's strong support for the MTN. The issues at stake are central to the interests of your membership.

We look forward to consulting closely with you as we progress through these multilateral negotiations. Indeed, I would emphasize how much we look forward to the contribution of the Canadian Exporters' Association in helping to clarify and prioritize Canada's export objectives offshore.

The structure the Government put in place two years ago reflected our commitment to consultations with the private sector. My officials are currently reviewing the ITAC and SAGITS to ensure they play as valuable a consultative and advisory role in the multilateral negotiations as they did in the bilateral trade talks. I would be glad to ask them to meet with you to get your ideas.

As you know, there are many very important issues in the Uruguay Round, including agricultural trade. Canada will be attending another ministerial meeting of the Cairns Group of 14 agricultural exporters next month in Argentina. We intend to keep up our pressure for early action. As you know, Canada tabled a comprehensive proposal in the Agricultural Negotiating Group last October.

Now, before I sit down, I want to focus briefly on some of the other points Reg mentioned earlier.