

this room today will have considerable influence on the answers to those questions.

In your deliberations, it would be useful to consider how other countries have approached this question:

- Australia and New Zealand have agreed to treat trade in their free trade area as domestic commerce.
- Within the European Union, dumping laws have also been eliminated. In dealing with third countries, a common anti-dumping regime applies.

Before concluding, I could not discuss trade rules without making a quick reference to ongoing negotiations regarding the Multilateral Steel Agreement [MSA].

Canada supports this initiative and continues to participate fully in the MSA negotiations.

In our view, the MSA negotiations provide steel producing countries with an opportunity to establish disciplines on an array of trade distorting practices which have plagued and continue to plague worldwide steel trade. Clearly, subsidies to steel producers in other countries are a serious problem and make a significant contribution to the continued worldwide overcapacity. We need to have tighter disciplines on such practices: if an outright prohibition is achievable, all the better.

However, in Canada's view, such trade-distorting practices include more than just subsidies. A really substantive MSA needs to deal also with issues such as government procurement.

In conclusion, there seems little doubt that the steel industry is, and will continue to be, in the forefront of any consideration regarding the review of trade remedy laws. As one of the most significant users of such laws, not only in Canada but in the United States and Mexico as well, I urge you, the steel industries of North America, to keep an open mind on the promise of the fully open and integrated market envisaged by the NAFTA.

With the appropriate resolve, by both governments and industries alike, we have a real opportunity to create a freer and more dynamic trade agreement among our three countries, a trade agreement that will not only be the envy of the world but a catalyst to placing North American corporations, such as yours, at the forefront of global competition.

Thank you.