Canada is the only country to be a member of all these organizations. Our membership has given us the opportunity not only to pursue our own interests in the world, but also to influence the course of world events. We will continue to pursue our security and prosperity by focusing on these organizations, as well as on key relationships with the United States, the European Community and Japan, as well as other important emerging players on the world stage.

## A World in Transition

We must turn our minds instead to the future, to find the right mix of policies to ensure stability and prosperity at home and, over time, to help create a more predictable, safer world.

The Honourable Barbara McDougall, December 10, 1991

The world as we knew it for over 40 years no longer exists. The walls between East and West are crumbling under the pressure of profound political and economic change in Central and Eastern Europe, and particularly in the U.S.S.R. New economic superpowers, such as Germany and Japan, have emerged. Communications and transportation technologies are transforming the world's financial, trade and investment communities into a worldwide market place, making borders increasingly porous and individual countries more dependent on each other than ever before.