

INFLUENCE ON OVERALL COMPETITIVENESS. THIS IS TRUE NOW AND WILL BE SO LOOKING DOWN THE ROAD TO THE NEXT GENERATION OF MAJOR INVESTMENTS. WITH OR WITHOUT A MTN, THE PROCESS OF ADJUSTMENT TOWARD GREATER INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIVENESS WILL AND MUST GO ON. THAT IS THE NATURE OF THINGS IN DYNAMIC AND FREE ECONOMIES, THE BASIC ASSUMPTIONS BEHIND THE CCPA'S EXISTING SUBMISSIONS, I BELIEVE, RECOGNIZE THIS, AS DOES YOUR CONFIRMATION OF GENERAL SUPPORT FOR CANADIAN PARTICIPATION IN THE PROCESS OF ONGOING TRADE LIBERALIZATION UNDER THE GATT. ON THE BASIS OF MY OWN MOST RECENT DISCUSSIONS HERE AND ABROAD, I CAN ASSURE YOU THAT POLICY MAKERS AT THE HIGHEST LEVELS ARE INCREASINGLY CONVINCED THAT PROCEEDING TO A SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION OF THE MTN IS A MUST IF MOUNTING PROTECTIONIST PRESSURES ARE TO BE HELD IN CHECK THROUGHOUT THE INDUSTRIALIZED WORLD. THIS, OF COURSE, WAS THE MESSAGE FROM THE LAST SUMMIT MEETING WHICH IS NOW BEING CONFIRMED IN THE GREATLY INCREASED TEMPO OF THE NEGOTIATIONS IN GENEVA.

C. THE NEGOTIATING SCENE: WHERE THINGS STAND

THE EUROPEAN VISIT FROM WHICH I HAVE ONLY JUST RETURNED INCLUDED DISCUSSIONS IN LONDON, PARIS, BONN, BRUSSELS AND GENEVA.

BY NOW MOST OF YOU I AM SURE HAVE A GENERAL APPRECIATION OF THE TIMETABLE WHICH HAS EMERGED FOR MOVING THE MTN NEGOTIATIONS FORWARD - ONE WHICH WOULD FORESEE THE BEGINNING OF HEAD-TO-HEAD BARGAINING AS EARLY AS JANUARY NEXT YEAR. THERE HAS BEEN SOME SLIPPAGE IN AN ORIGINAL OCTOBER 1 TARGET FOR FULL AGREEMENT ON