

tide of protectionism and keep existing trade channels open. We want to achieve reductions in both tariffs and non-tariff barriers to trade. We want to develop new rules for agricultural trade. We want to improve the security of market access by establishing tighter disciplines on contingency protection measures and subsidies. We want to strengthen the GATT system and we want to develop new rules for trade in services, trade-related intellectual property matters, and trade-related investment measures.

Our countries share many of these objectives. With sufficient political will we can overcome the remaining roadblocks in the negotiations and achieve an agreement from which the whole world will benefit but we need that political will now ... to re-energize the negotiations. The Netherlands, in its presidency of the EC, has a unique opportunity to provide the needed leadership. I urge your political leaders to seize that opportunity.

There are some exciting times ahead in Europe. The completion of the Single Market initiative will mark one of the most significant accomplishments in the history of trade liberalization. The progress which the Community is making towards economic and monetary union is also very impressive, as is the determination with which the Community is negotiating the creation of a common economic area with the nations of the European Free Trade Association (EFTA), and new trading arrangements with Poland, Hungary and Czechoslovakia.

Canada looks to Europe with admiration and sees the dawning of an era of growth and opportunity. As a long-time trading partner, and friend, we look forward to continuing to share in the Netherlands' success.