

THE DIFFICULTIES WE EXPERIENCED IN REACHING CONSENSUS AT THE MONTREAL MID-TERM MINISTERIAL MEETING DEMONSTRATE THE NEED FOR SUSTAINED POLITICAL SUPPORT IF SUCCESS IS TO CROWN THE URUGUAY ROUND. THE ADVOCACY AND COMMITMENT OF OECD MINISTERS TO THE MTN IS ESSENTIAL IF WE ARE TO AVOID A FRACTURED WORLD TRADING SYSTEM. OUR LEADERSHIP IS REQUIRED IN ORDER TO BUILD ON THE POSITIVE OUTCOME OF THE MID-TERM REVIEW, TO ADDRESS THE SYSTEMIC PROBLEMS WHICH FACE LIBERALIZED TRADE WORLDWIDE, AND TO RESIST PRESSURES WHICH COULD UNDERMINE MULTILATERALISM, OUR CREDIBILITY AND, ULTIMATELY, OUR ECONOMIC WELL-BEING.

FOR THE URUGUAY ROUND TO BE A SUCCESS, WE BELIEVE THE FOLLOWING MUST BE ACHIEVED:

- THE GATT MUST BE STRENGTHENED IN A NUMBER OF TRADITIONAL AREAS SUCH AS IMPROVED ACCESS TO MARKETS AND SO THAT WE CAN BUILD ON THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF EARLIER NEGOTIATING ROUNDS;
- ITS DISPUTE SETTLEMENT AND ENFORCEMENT MECHANISMS MUST BE IMPROVED;