

productivity in the workplace;

- *promoting* higher living standards as productivity increases;
- *encouraging* consultation and dialogue between labor, business and government both in each country and in North America;
- *fostering* investment with due regard for the importance of labor laws and principles;
- *encouraging* employers and employees in each country to comply with labor laws and to work together in maintaining a progressive, fair, safe and healthy working environment;

BUILDING on existing institutions and mechanisms in Canada, Mexico and the United States to achieve the preceding economic and social goals; and

CONVINCED of the benefits to be gained from further cooperation between them on labor matters;

HAVE AGREED as follows: