

The government is committed to encouraging the participation of all stakeholders and every level of government in the development and conduct of its trade policy. This commitment flows from the government's response to the recommendations of the June 1999 report of the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and International Trade, entitled *Canada and the Future of the World Trade Organization: Advancing a Millennium Agenda in the Public Interest*.<sup>2</sup> The report placed strong emphasis on public consultations as a central part of preparations for new negotiations.<sup>3</sup>

The precise structure of future consultation processes on the GATS negotiations has not yet been determined. However, consultation will go on through a variety of mechanisms, including additional multi-stakeholder meetings, consultations with individual industry sectors, Parliamentary hearings and discussions with the Sector Advisory Groups on International Trade.

Readers are invited to convey their views on any of these issues throughout the negotiation process. Contact names for various issues and industry sectors are available on the Web at: <http://services2000.ic.gc.ca>

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<sup>2</sup> For the Parliamentary Committee Report and the Government Response to the Report, visit the Services 2000 Web site: <http://services2000.ic.gc.ca>

<sup>3</sup> See *Canada and the Future of the World Trade Organization*, Ch. 6.