

delay. The Standing Senate Committee on Foreign Affairs is expected to report on its hearings related to the legal and constitutional aspects of the FTA by the end of April 1988.

In the United States, the Administration and Congress are working together to draft implementing legislation. Congressional public hearings on the FTA began on February 5, 1988.

The US Administration has reached agreement with the congressional leadership on a process of consultation and on the timing of congressional consideration of FTA legislation. Under this arrangement, the Administration will not table implementing legislation in Congress before June 1, 1988 in return for a commitment from congressional leadership to vote on the legislation by the end of the current legislative session; if possible, by the August recess.

According to a timetable announced by Senator Lloyd Bentsen, the Finance Committee will begin reviewing the draft implementing bill during the week of April 25, with the process to continue through May. Such a timetable will enable the FTA bill to be formally introduced in Congress on June 1, thereby enabling ratification by early August 1988.

Investment

Canada is a secure, open and profitable place in which to invest. The United States is Canada's principal source of foreign investment. It is also Canada's priority investment promotion market.

Investment in Canada from the United States continues to make a substantial contribution to Canadian economic development. It accounts for over 77 per cent of total foreign direct investment in Canada. At year-end 1987, total US investment in Canada amounted to an estimated C\$134.7 billion, of which C\$75.2 billion was direct investment and C\$59.5 billion was portfolio investment. Fully 20 per cent of all US direct investment abroad is located in Canada; the largest concentration of US foreign direct investment.

Canada is the fourth largest foreign investor in the USA after the United Kingdom, the Netherlands and Japan. At the end of 1987, Canadian direct investment in the USA was estimated at C\$43.3 billion, or about nine per cent of total foreign direct investment in the USA.

All statistics are based on Statistics Canada preliminary estimates for 1987.