activity should be ongoing, with periodic reports (quarterly or annually).

The data on exports and imports can be exploited further by analyzing the data:

- o for shifts in direction of trade,
- o for increased intraindustry trade indicating specialization and rationalization, and
- o for identification of sectors with substantial changes in either exports or imports.

The recent shift to the Harmonized System (HS) for trade data makes it difficult to conduct analysis over a longer period of time at the detailed trade category level. It is possible, however, to use more aggregated data to study the trends over a number of years. As well, estimates in both current dollars and constant dollars with associated price indexes are available from Statistics Canada at a higher level of aggregation, allowing for more sophisticated analysis.

It would seem to be possible to extend the ISTC industry analysis to distinguish between trade with the U.S. and other countries, allowing for a monitoring of export and import shares by country for each industry.

A major benefit from the FTA will be **improved market access**, particularly for Canadian firms exporting to the United States. There is no simple "market access index" that can be observed. But there are three dimensions that can be documented and that would provide some sense of possible changes.

The **number of trade disputes** each year, by type (antidumping, countervail, other), by commodity or industry that arise in the United States and are directed at Canada or affect Canada would be a useful set of data. Comparison to actions against other countries would provide further context. Adding weights related to the value of trade affected would allow for comparison to the total value of trade.

If there are fewer disputes, affecting less of the total value of trade, then it would be indicative of more "market access". Extension of the information back into the early 1980s would also be helpful in signaling whether the access is improved only with respect to recent years, or represents a better environment than at the beginning of the decade.

With the "deepening" of trade between the two countries it is conceivable that the number of disputes might actually increase, particularly in areas that are "new" to each. The distribution by industry or commodity group may help to distinguish the nature of the increase.

For disputes that do take place, a systematic tracking of the **time period required for resolution** would be an interesting dimension for regular publication. Again this can be disaggregated by type of dispute, by industry, and with both the historical context and treatment of other