- 3. Unconditional obligations and disciplines, which apply generally to all Member countries and all service sectors, such as Transparency requirements or the Most Favoured Nation (MFN) principle. Under MFN, if entry is granted to some foreign service firms, it must also be allowed to service firms of other Member states under the same conditions. This ensures that foreign service providers of all WTO members are treated equally. Members can make exceptions to this obligation.
- 4. Conditional obligations, which apply to Members only in sectors where they choose to make commitments. For example, in sectors where specific Market Access commitments are made, measures such as quotas, economic needs tests or limitations on foreign equity are prohibited unless exceptions to this obligation are listed; and in sectors where specific National Treatment commitments are made, foreign service providers must receive the same treatment as domestic service providers unless exceptions to this obligation are listed.
- 5. Flexibility in scheduling commitments, which extends not only to the choice of sector but also to the choice of mode of supply (cross-border services, consumption of services abroad, provision of services through a commercial presence in Canada or through temporary entry of foreign nationals into Canada) and whatever other limitations (including those related to provincial/territorial jurisdictions) Member states choose to apply.
- 6. Reconciliation of trade liberalization with domestic policy autonomy and flexibility: The presentation emphasized that Member states have the right and ability to regulate in the public interest. For example, the exclusion of "services supplied in the exercise of government authority," coupled with the absence of commitments, enables Canada to preserve its ability to regulate in the areas of public health and public education.