

BE WHETHER, ON BALANCE AND IN THE ECONOMIC CIRCUMSTANCES PREVAILING, A USEFUL RESULT WAS ACHIEVED - ONE WHICH AVOIDED REGRESSION AND CONTINUED TO SHAPE AND MOVE THE WORLD TRADING ENVIRONMENT IN CONSTRUCTIVE, TRADE AND WEALTH CREATING DIRECTIONS. BY SUCH STANDARDS AND TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE PERCEIVED NEED TO REACH CLEARER AGREEMENT ON THE HANDLING OF UNFAIR AND INJURIOUS COMPETITION, I BELIEVE THAT THE WORLD AND CANADA CAN BE REASONABLY CONTENT THAT THINGS TURNED OUT AS THEY DID. MUCH OF COURSE REMAINS TO BE DONE, BUT THIS IS ALWAYS TRUE IN AN IMPERFECT WORLD AND NOT LEAST IN THE SENSITIVE AREA OF COMMERCIAL POLICY.

OVER THE YEARS AHEAD, IT WILL TAKE THE COMBINED EFFORTS OF PRODUCERS AND EXPORTERS, OF GOVERNMENTS AND THOSE WHO WORK FOR GOVERNMENTS IN THE FIELD OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE, TO SEE THAT CANADIAN INTERESTS ARE SAFEGUARDED AND ADVANCED AND THAT CANADIAN EXPORTS ARE ABLE TO MAKE THEIR CRITICAL CONTRIBUTION TO OUR ECONOMIC WELL-BEING.

REINFORCED AND REFRESHED BY MY EXPERIENCES AS MTN COORDINATOR, I LEAVE THE PUBLIC SECTOR CONFIDENT THAT, DESPITE A GOOD DEAL OF SUPERFICIAL EVIDENCE TO THE CONTRARY, CANADIANS CAN AND WILL WORK TOGETHER WHEN THE CHIPS ARE DOWN. MY HOPE IS THAT, INCREASINGLY, WE WILL BE PREPARED TO DO SO IN ADVANCE OF THE CRITICAL HOUR.