

Let me now turn to the critical issues for Canada: Changes in the U.S. - and Canadian - trade remedy laws and a new dispute settlement mechanism. Let me set the record straight on these issues.

First, neither Canada nor the United States wants a licence to poach in the other's market. I can categorically state that we are NOT looking to dump or send subsidized goods into the U.S..

Having said that, we are not content with the existing state of international trade rules. We think that Canada and the U.S. can build on those rules and achieve much greater precision and specificity.

What that means is that if we have more precise rules on what subsidies are permissible and what are not, we can move away from border measures such as countervailing duties.

In short, if we can get at the root causes of unfair trade practices, we can do away with the means used to penalize them.

An essential component of this approach to reducing trade disputes is a balanced and equitable mechanism to interpret the Treaty and resolve disputes.

While we are pursuing the new Trade Agreement with the United States, we have not been blind to our other export markets, or to the expanding opportunities elsewhere.

Our Prime Minister's trade mission to Japan, China and Korea was the first ever by a Canadian Prime Minister. It's already paying off. You're beginning to read stories on the business pages more and more frequently about deals with those countries.

As Minister for International Trade I have also visited most Pacific Rim countries as well as Europe to enhance our trade relationships.

The Francophone and Commonwealth Summits this year are an extension of that effort to expand on our exports.

When we were elected, Canadians had other concerns that were not strictly economic....concerns that dealt with the quality of life and justice in this country.

We have concerned ourselves with that too.

One of our first moves was to bring about needed amendments to the divorce act.