competitive position has improved substantially over the past several years. Since 1983, Canada's record of output and employment growth has been the best of all major industrialized countries; and

- fourth, not only will the adjustment requirements be minimal compared with the changes normally occurring — every year for instance, there are five million job changes in Canada involving more than four million workers — but the federal government has in place a wide array of programs to assist individuals and businesses to adapt to changes in business and labour market conditions that will arise from free trade.

Substantial programs are in place to assist Canadian workers and businesses to respond to the Agreement. The most important federal program directed at labour adjustment is the Canadian Jobs Strategy, which provides financial assistance for training, job development and relocation of workers. Employment and Immigration Canada also runs the Industrial Adjustment Service and provides counselling, referral and placement services. Unemployment Insurance is always available to help Canadians make the transition from one job to another. An equally extensive range of programs is available which will help Canadian businesses capitalize on the new opportunities created by the Agreement. They include: the Trade Commissioner service of the Department of External Affairs; the Program for Export Market Development; and the new approach to regional development embodied in the programs and services of the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency, the Western Diversification Office and the Federal Economic Development Initiative in Northern Ontario. The Prime Minister has recently announced the establishment of the Advisory Council on Adjustment, composed of representatives from business and labour organizations and academics, to advise the government on the effectiveness of these programs in the context of the Agreement.

The Energy Sector

Canada is a major producer and consumer of energy. Canada has significant reserves of oil, natural gas, uranium and coal. In addition, some remaining major hydro sites can be developed. Gross revenues for Canada's energy sector were over $60 billion in 1986. Total energy investment in the Canadian economy amounted to about $13.6 billion in 1986 (down from $14.8 billion in 1985) and represented 14 per cent of total investment (compared with 19 per cent in 1985). Canada is the most energy-intensive industrial country in the world. In 1984, Canada's total energy consumption was equal to 3.7 million barrels of oil equivalent per billion dollars of Gross Domestic Product (GDP). This compares with 3.3 for the United States, 1.7 for the United Kingdom and 1.5 for Japan. In