

goods, people, capital and services within the EC by January 1, 1993. This project has the potential to alter considerably the nature of Canada's commercial relations with the EC. To assist Canadians in adjusting to the changes resulting from the 1992 program, the Department has held an extensive series of conferences in major centres across the country, and published a series of studies of interest to specific economic sectors. Ten conferences and 16 industrial reports informed business leaders and opinion formers on the trade opportunities flowing from the completion of the European Single Market. An increasing number of specific seminars and industry-sector studies are planned. The Department also pursues bilateral discussions with the European Commission to make its views known on proposed Single Market measures. An arrangement has been reached whereby draft standards are made available to the Standards Council of Canada in advance of adoption.

The Department also assists exporters directly through a variety of trade promotion programs.

The Department promotes and protects the interests of Canadians when disagreements arise with respect to trading relations with the EC. Over the

past year, it sought to alleviate the impact of Community measures, or proposed measures, which would restrict the import of items such as peas, beans, lumber, newsprint, defence products, furs and apples. Of equal importance are the Department's efforts to increase the instances of cooperation and consultation in the Canada-EC relationship.

Canada has requested that the EC enter into an agreement on cooperation in the field of science and technology. This would expand the existing bilateral program of scientific cooperation, and it would also involve the Canadian research community in EC-led technology development programs in Europe. The ongoing bilateral program in areas such as energy and environment was reviewed in Ispia, Italy, in October.

In the year ahead, the EC will continue its efforts to accelerate the pace of integration of the economies of the 12 Member States and to a lesser extent with the six members of the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) in the European Economic Space. In addition to the continuation of the 1992 initiative, it will hold major intergovernmental conferences to advance towards monetary and political union. The Department will follow