

SUBSTANTIVELY, THE AGREEMENT IS FIRMLY BASED ON THE CONCEPTS AND PRINCIPLES OF THE GATT - IN TECHNICAL STANDARDS, PROCUREMENT, EXPORT AND IMPORT RESTRICTIONS ELSEWHERE.

IMPORTANTLY, THE FREE TRADE AGREEMENT IS ALSO A PSYCHOLOGICAL WATERSHED IN CANADA'S HISTORY. IT SIGNALS A NEW, OUTWARD-LOOKING AND MORE CONFIDENT CANADA.

AS A COMPLEMENT TO OUR AGREEMENT WITH THE U.S., CANADA IS GIVING TOP PRIORITY TO THE URUGUAY ROUND OF MULTILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS. THE MULTILATERAL TRADING SYSTEM REMAINS THE CORNERSTONE OF CANADA'S INTERNATIONAL TRADE POLICY. THE FREE TRADE AGREEMENT AND THE MULTILATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS ARE COMPLEMENTARY AND MUTUALLY REINFORCING.

IT IS NOT IN THE INTERESTS OF ANY COUNTRY TO NEGOTIATE BILATERAL ARRANGEMENTS TO THE DETRIMENT OF ITS OTHER TRADING PARTNERS.

WE ALSO BELIEVE THAT THE CONTINUED HEALTH OF THE WORLD ECONOMY DEPENDS ON THE PROGRESS WE MAKE IN THE CURRENT URUGUAY ROUND.

AS A LEADING FORCE IN THE GROUP OF DYNAMIC ECONOMIES OF ASIA, KOREA IS PLAYING AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN THE CURRENT ROUND. FOR EXAMPLE, CANADIAN NEGOTIATORS WILL BE LOOKING FOR KOREAN LEADERSHIP ON THE ISSUE OF AGRICULTURAL REFORM, AND WILL EXPECT TO SEE A CONTINUATION OF KOREA'S RECENT DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL LIBERALIZATION.

IT IS OUR VIEW THAT A SUBSTANTIAL REDUCTION OF JAPANESE AND KOREAN BARRIERS TO AGRICULTURAL TRADE IS CENTRAL TO AGRICULTURAL REFORM AND TO MAINTENANCE OF THE OPEN TRADING SYSTEM WHICH HAS HELPED TO FUEL ASIAN PACIFIC GROWTH.