

IN THINKING ABOUT THE MULTILATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS, I WOULD SUGGEST THAT THE FOLLOWING CONSIDERATIONS SHOULD BE BORN IN MIND:

- THE MTN IS BUT ONE OF A NUMBER OF MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS WHICH WILL HAVE AN IMPACT ON THE CANADIAN ECONOMY OVER THE NEXT FEW YEARS.
- CANADA'S DECISION TO PARTICIPATE, INITIALLY TAKEN BY MINISTERS IN 1972, AND CONFIRMED IN CANADA'S ADHERENCE TO THE TOKYO DECLARATION IN 1973, AND THIS YEAR'S DOWNING STREET SUMMIT COMMUNIQUÉ, IS CONSISTENT WITH THE FURTHERANCE OF CANADA'S INTEREST IN A SOUNDLY FUNCTIONING WELL-FOUNDED ECONOMY.
- TO STAND ASIDE FROM THE NEGOTIATIONS IS NOT A REAL OPTION. THE COST WOULD BE TOO GREAT, BOTH IN TERMS OF OUR OWN NEEDS FOR AN EFFICIENT AND PRODUCTIVE ECONOMY IN THE FUTURE AND IN TERMS OF THE POTENTIALLY HOSTILE CLIMATE FAILURE TO PARTICIPATE WOULD CREATE INTERNATIONALLY, NOT ONLY IN OUR TRADE WITH THE UNITED STATES BUT ALSO IN TERMS OF OUR EFFORTS TO DIVERSIFY OUR INTERESTS IN THE EC AND JAPAN. IT WOULD, I BELIEVE, BE COUNTERPRODUCTIVE AT THIS STAGE OF OUR HISTORY AND DESPITE CURRENT DIFFICULTIES TO SEEK TO INSULATE THE CANADIAN ECONOMY FROM