

32. There is an emerging international consensus, strongly supported by Canada, the U.S. and Japan, in favour of a new round of multilateral trade negotiations which could begin in 1986. The launching of the new round will be addressed in upcoming international meetings, such as the OECD Ministerial meeting in April, the Bonn Economic Summit in May, and meetings of trade ministers planned for the first half of the year.

33. The impetus behind the widening international consensus for a new round is to be found in the need:

- a) to head off protectionist pressures that seriously threaten multilateral trade co-operation;
- b) to achieve the benefits of further liberalization of trade on a multilateral basis, including the development of more internationally competitive industries;
- c) to improve and to clarify existing rules to make the trading environment more predictable;
- d) to broaden the scope for international trade co-operation to cover areas not now subject to international trade disciplines including, for example, trade in services;
- e) to look for a more co-ordinated framework that takes into account the relationships among (i) trade policy; (ii) industrial policy measures, including improved competitiveness; and (iii) international financial relations; and
- f) to bring newly industrialized and developing countries more effectively into the multilateral framework on the basis of some reciprocity of benefit.

34. The new round will serve, generally, to strengthen the multilateral trading system and, specifically, to further Canadian interests with our principal trading partners by providing a framework for reducing and/or eliminating tariffs, resuming efforts to come to grips with the trade effects of non-tariff measures, improving and developing international trade disciplines and developing international rules in new areas such as trade in services.

35. The accelerating international momentum for a new round of trade negotiations obliges Canada to identify and articulate Canadian objectives, to influence the