

CUSTOMS VALUATION WOULD REQUIRE IMPLEMENTATION BY CANADA WITHIN THE FOLLOWING FOUR YEARS, ASSUMING THAT OUR TRADING PARTNERS HAVE AGREED TO CANADA'S NECESSARY PRE-CONDITIONS.

CANADA'S CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE MTN RESULTS WERE TAILORED TO MINIMIZE DIFFICULTIES SO FAR AS POSSIBLE AND STAGED IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TARIFF REDUCTIONS WILL IN MANY CASES EASE PROBLEMS WHICH MIGHT OTHERWISE ARISE. BUT IN ANY EVENT THE GOVERNMENT HAS RECOGNIZED THE NEED FOR MEASURES OF ASSISTANCE TO BE AVAILABLE TO EASE POSSIBLE TRANSITIONAL DIFFICULTIES AS WELL AS TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF NEW OPPORTUNITIES. THE HONOURABLE BOB DE COTRET HAS ALREADY STATED PUBLICLY THAT THERE IS A REVIEW UNDERWAY OF THE ADEQUACY OF OUR ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS TO MAKE SURE THEY ADDRESS THE MTN RESULTS IN THE MOST SATISFACTORY MANNER POSSIBLE. HE ALSO MENTIONED THAT GOVERNMENT WILL BE SEEKING THE ADVICE OF THE PROVINCES, LABOUR AND THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY IN THIS REGARD AND THAT THE GOVERNMENT WILL MAKE AN ANNOUNCEMENT IN TIME FOR IT TO BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT IN CORPORATE AND MANPOWER PLANNING, IN ADVANCE OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MTN TARIFF RESULTS.

ON THE PRIVATE SIDE IT SEEMS TO ME ESSENTIAL THAT ALL OUR PRODUCERS AND MANUFACTURERS TAKE THE TIME TO INFORM THEMSELVES OF PROSPECTIVE CHANGES IN THE TRADING ENVIRONMENT AND ACT TO ADAPT TO AND TAKE FULL ADVANTAGE OF THE CHANGING CIRCUMSTANCES. ORGANIZATIONS SUCH AS THE CONFERENCE BOARD, CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE, THE CMA, THE CEA, AND THE CIA, VARIOUS TRADE ASSOCIATIONS AND SIMILAR GROUPS ARE HELPING TO MAKE SURE THIS MESSAGE IS TRANSMITTED AND UNDERSTOOD BY THEIR MEMBERS. AND THE HONOURABLE MICHAEL WILSON HAS INDICATED THAT FURTHER MEETINGS AND SEMINARS TO INFORM BUSINESSES OF THE DETAILED RESULTS OF THE MTN ARE TO BE ORGANIZED. FIRMS SHOULD ALSO BE MADE AWARE THAT THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT IS ALREADY GEARED UP TO PROVIDE INDIVIDUAL COMPANIES WITH