

## A N N E X

The Uruguay Round is about to enter its substantive phase and Canada, as an active participant, will be negotiating with all countries under the auspices of the GATT to reduce import barriers to their markets for Canadian goods and services. As part of the negotiations, countries will be negotiating reductions in tariff and non-tariff barriers on goods which are currently in effect. Canadian companies or producers who export or import or have an interest in doing so have a direct stake in the outcome of the GATT negotiations. In order that the government is better able to serve these interests, views are being invited from the public on this important matter.

In addition, advice is being sought from the International Trade Advisory Committee (ITAC) and the Sectoral Advisory Groups on International Trade (SAGITs). These groups, which have been reconstituted since the conclusion of the FTA to provide advice on the GATT negotiations and other trade issues, are working towards a mid-summer deadline to provide detailed views of the private sector on specific market access issues related to trade in goods. The federal government is also consulting closely with the provincial governments and the territories. Interested parties which have already communicated their views to these bodies or the provinces or territories do not need to make a separate submission to the government unless they so desire.

Submissions should be as specific as possible concerning the products (including the classification number under the Harmonized System where available) and countries of export interest and should identify, where relevant, the current barriers (tariffs, non-tariff barriers) which impede access to Canadian exports of either manufactured and resource based products as well as agriculture and food products. Examples of non-tariff barriers which are being negotiated in the Uruguay Round are quantitative limits or import quotas, import licensing arrangements, discriminatory government purchasing practices and other government measures which restrict or prohibit trade. It should be noted that in light of the Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement, Canada's access to the U.S. market has been largely addressed. However certain measures such as government purchasing practices are also covered by the GATT negotiations and representations on these or other measures would be welcomed.

Petitioners may also wish to provide comments on the desirability of reducing or eliminating specific Canadian rates of duty applied under the Customs Tariff or other measures which serve to protect Canadian production of goods. Such comments should outline the probable effect of such reductions in terms which are as specific as possible.