

8. Since the last Situation Report in August 1989, Canada has submitted proposals on market access, intellectual property standards and enforcement, agriculture, balance of payments and anti-dumping issues. Their main thrusts are:

- Market access: Canada has proposed an integrated approach to deal with both tariffs and NTB's, involving a tariff formula reduction of approximately one-third with some "harmonization" elements and minimum possible exceptions, supplemented by request and offer lists to go beyond the tariff formula and to deal with specific NTB's. The approach encompasses all market access negotiating groups. The text of the proposal, which has served as a catalyst for discussions in Geneva, is in Annex III. Although the definitive MTN approach to market access remains outstanding at this time, many elements of the Canadian proposal will likely end up as part of the approach.
- Intellectual Property (TRIP's): Canada has proposed a comprehensive approach to improve intellectual property rights (patents, trademarks, geographical appellations, copyright, neighbouring rights, integrated circuits, industrial designs and trade secrets) in a manner that is balanced between the protection of the interests of owners and reasonable access by users. It aims at the encouragement of innovation and creation, research and development, and the commercial transfer of technology. Canada's proposal is in Annex IV.

With respect to enforcement of intellectual property rights, Canada has proposed a number of principles that would ensure fair, effective and non-discriminatory enforcement, involving national treatment in the administration of intellectual property systems and of border trade remedy measures as in the case of alleged patent infringements (e.g. Section 337 of USA trade legislation). Canada's proposal in Annex V seeks to strike an appropriate balance among the commercial and other economic interests of the various private sector parties concerned. Work in the TRIP's Negotiating Group now is turning to the development of an integrated draft agreement.