

and opposition because of the current protectionist concern over trade.

2. Because congressional approval will be necessary for the FTA, Congress will play an important role in the negotiations. To maximize the chances for obtaining congressional approval, the President is likely to use the fast-track procedure, which requires early and continuous consultations between the U.S. negotiators and the Senate Finance Committee and the House Ways and Means Committee. Consequently, although the Administration may be sympathetic to Canadian concerns, it will be extremely concerned about the congressional reaction to Canadian proposals.

3. Despite the likely opposition from protectionist interests, we feel there is a reasonable possibility of achieving agreement on certain proposals to increase the predictability of Canadian access to the U.S. market.

- a. to maximize the chances for acceptance of such proposals, the U.S. Government should be encouraged to view the FTA as a balanced package of measures to enhance the predictability of access to both markets,