

national markets. Such European practices hurt producers in the more efficient agricultural producing countries. At the same time they pose an inordinate burden on European taxpayers.

5) We also seek to strengthen the existing GATT codes where Canada has a particular interest in obtaining broader access for its products and in improving the rules of international trade. The Aircraft Agreement, for example, has served us well and has been strongly supported by the Canadian aerospace industry. This agreement calls for negotiations by the end of this year. Our approach will be to seek to expand the coverage of the code and to maintain a balance of reciprocal advantages taking into account specific trade interests of the Canadian industry. A further objective will be to have aircraft manufacturing countries, which are not signatories to the code, accede to it.

6) We will look as well to action providing better access generally for further processed resource products. This is a major area in terms of our current trade profile. It is also a sector with the highest potential for development in the next decade. Our concerns regarding barriers to trade in fisheries products will also be registered.

These are some of the issues we will be grappling with as we work towards the GATT ministerial meeting in November. At that meeting the contracting parties to the GATT should reconfirm their faith in the multilateral trading system and their will to make it work effectively. However, if the meeting is to be successful, it must go beyond mere political rhetoric. Ministers must be able to demonstrate to their respective publics that real progress can be made on the important trade problems confronting the world community. Above all, we must ensure that the system is relevant to current concerns and can respond to constraints on economic development in Canada.

Other countries will, of course, also have their own list of items they will wish to see addressed in the work program and at the meeting itself. The United States has come forward with several proposals for taking the GATT into new areas of activity. Specifically, they have identified international trade in services, trade-related investment issues and high technology as areas in which they would like to see the GATT undertake a study program. We are in the process of identifying particular Canadian interests in these areas.

Regarding services, for example, an interdepartmental task force was established about a year ago and has conducted extensive consultations with the provinces and the private sector. I expect that we will be prepared to go along with American proposals to study problems relating to trade in services in the GATT.

As for the American proposals regarding trade-related investment matters, we have said that such a program of study would be unbalanced unless it were to address at the same time the behaviour of multinational enterprises.