

through non-inflationary growth. In April 1996, G-7 ministers met in Lille, France, to discuss ways to create jobs and reduce unemployment. The results of that meeting will be reported to leaders.

Expanding trade and investment is essential for creating sustainable jobs and growth globally and nationally. In November 1995, Canada convened an informal meeting of trade ministers to build consensus on the agenda for the first World Trade Organization (WTO) ministerial meeting, to be held in December 1996 in Singapore. The central role of the WTO and plans for the Singapore meeting will be considered in Lyon.

The foundations of sustainable development were recognized at the Halifax Summit as including good governance, respect for human rights, investment in people and environmental protection. Canada supports a partnership approach to development, with developing countries having the primary responsibility for their own development through responsible political and economic governance. Developed countries are responsible for targeting support to essential sectors and improving the quality of aid, while multilateral institutions must ensure that development activities are co-ordinated. In Lyon, leaders will discuss this new global partnership.

Over the past year, the G-7 nuclear safety agenda advanced considerably. Under Canadian chairmanship, the G-7 and Ukraine signed a memorandum of understanding on the closure of the Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant by the year 2000. This fulfilled G-7 commitments made at the 1994 Naples Summit and in Halifax. G-7 nuclear safety improvement projects for planning and operational procedures continued to be implemented in Russia, Lithuania and Bulgaria. The Summit on Nuclear Safety and Security held in April 1996 in Moscow was an important step towards improved international co-operation in nuclear safety. At that summit, President Boris Yeltsin committed Russia to join the international Convention on Nuclear Safety, to adhere to the Vienna Convention on Nuclear Liability, and to adhere to the 1993 amendment of the London Convention banning the dumping of radioactive waste at sea. A program for combatting illicit trafficking in nuclear weapons was also approved. In Lyon, leaders will review developments and discuss ways in which nuclear safety can be further enhanced.

The environment remains a high G-7 priority. In Halifax, leaders reviewed the implementation of key commitments made at the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. In May 1996, G-7 environment ministers met in Cabourg, France, to discuss related health and trade issues, as well as institutional arrangements for the environment and sustainable development. In Lyon, leaders are expected to renew the commitments they made at Rio and to discuss ways in which international institutions can be more effective.