

- We are examining how to respond to the private sector task force report on petrochemicals which includes a recommendation relating to sectoral arrangements with the United States.

- The Textile and Clothing Board will provide its report on the economic impact of free trade in that sector by the end of April. We assume that the question will also be pursued by the recently established private sector task force.

- At the suggestion of the Alberta Government and Western Cattlemen we are examining prospects for an arrangement in beef and other red meats.

The CMA has skillfully drawn up a speakers list for your Conference which involves key figures in the steel, urban mass transit, petrochemicals and textiles and clothing industries. I know that all of us will be interested in their presentations. They will help clarify the advantages and disadvantages of prospective free trade arrangements as seen by the "players".

The Government's consideration of possible sectoral free trade arrangements with the United States