

"These views will be used by the Government as a basis for key trade policy decisions", Mr. Kelleher said.

The Paper is divided into three sections. The first outlines the international setting for market opportunities and the international trading environment that conditions our search for improved and secure access to markets. These general conditions affect the specific interests of Canadian producers in world markets and at home. "We want to learn more about what those interests are and how they are affected: what specific market access problems hinder Canadian producers and how the Government can best assist in overcoming them", Mr. Kelleher said. Part II considers our involvement in the next round of multilateral trade negotiations which could begin next year. The third part addresses possible bilateral approaches to the Canada-U.S. trade relationships, reflecting the importance of the American market.

With respect to multilateral trade negotiations, the Paper is designed to obtain input from the Provinces and the private sector to prepare for the next round of multilateral trade negotiations under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT). Mr. Kelleher stated that Canada remains committed to the GATT. He added that the Government also wishes to examine possible bilateral arrangements with the United States which could complement and reinforce efforts being sought through multilateral trade negotiations.

"Canadians need to explore urgently and with the greatest care how best to secure and enhance access to the United States, our single biggest market which represents 3/4 of our exports", the Minister said.

The Discussion Paper sets out four possible options for Canada - U.S.A. trade relations:

1. We could continue as we have in the past.
2. Canada the U.S.A. could initiate negotiations towards either sectoral or non-tariff arrangements.
3. Canada and the United States could initiate negotiations aimed to achieve a comprehensive bilateral trade arrangement.