

lishment of permanent delegations. None of these is very ambitious, and many countries have already begun to take such steps. Our businesses are primarily interested in measures which will save them time.

Improvements of this kind would be of particular importance to the small and medium-sized firms, which are especially vulnerable to the difficulties I have mentioned. Canada has a high regard for the place occupied by such firms within its total production and export capacity and, since the goal is to enlarge and diversify trade relations among the participating states, it is to be hoped that such firms will share fully in the benefits of this trend.