

Nevertheless, it is fair to say that we, and other countries such as Japan and the U.S.A., still have concerns with respect to the development of European standards as well as the eventual implementation of the reciprocity concept.

It is my hope that European integration will not lead to new trade barriers. Even the threat of new barriers could have a chilling effect on international trade and investment and on the multilateral trade negotiations.

The discussions I have had here so far, indicate that Spanish business and political leaders share that general view. However, it will require continued effort on all sides to see that the new regulations in practice live up to the principle of liberalized trade.

Although we recognize that the completion of the single market is essentially an internal process, transparency and ongoing dialogue between the EC, its member states and its external trading partners will serve to reduce uncertainty about the outcome of the European integration process.

The relationship between Canada and the United States under Free Trade will, of course, differ from that among the member states of the European Community. While the community will continue to operate under common rules and under common institutions, Canada and the United States will operate under national treatment rules with common institutions only for dispute resolution.

It is important to stress that the Free-Trade Agreement will not create any new barriers to trade for third countries. The broad scope of trade liberalization between Canada and the U.S.A. is such that Free Trade will bring many of the same advantages and opportunities for businesses in North America that 1992 will bring for businesses in the European Community.

We know that aggressive European companies are investigating the new opportunities for trade and investment that Canada-U.S.A. Free Trade will bring. Although Spanish investment in Canada is small to date, several Spanish companies have, and are, considering a variety of investment and technology transfer arrangements with Canada. Undoubtedly, the liberalization of your foreign exchange controls two years ago has had a positive effect in this regard.

I notice as well, that the Spanish press recently reported a two-way investment deal that will see the opening or expansion of zinc mines in both Spain and Canada.

The point is that the Single Market and the Free Trade Agreement both facilitate and encourage that kind of company and country cooperation.