

opportunities for achieving market access objectives. Part III addresses possible bilateral approaches to the Canada-U.S. trade relationship reflecting the importance of the U.S. market and the associated vulnerability of Canadian exports to protectionist threats to our access to that market.

9. In the policy decisions that lie ahead the choice for Canada is not between multilateral or bilateral approaches to trade but how both avenues can be pursued in a mutually reinforcing manner. The objectives are: to promote increased competitiveness in the domestic market; to secure and improve access for Canadian exporters; and, to ensure a positive climate for investment and access to technology.

10. The consultations will be led for the government by the Minister for International Trade, the Hon. James Kelleher. In addition to the identification of specific problems of access to world markets and export opportunities, the Minister invites the principal sectoral associations and interest groups to provide assessments and comments on the issues and options presented in this paper as they affect their sectors.

11. In February, the Minister will begin meetings with representative groups from the broadest possible range of sectoral, economic and regional interests. A full schedule will be announced in due course.