

recognized the absolute necessity of close diplomatic engagement in tackling complex, multilateral issues.

In the economic sphere, India like Canada has witnessed the increasing integration of its economy into a global economic structure. Both our countries have an enormous stake in workable international economic institutions. Both our countries are threatened by looming protectionism in major export markets.

The lesson to be drawn from these realities is, I think, quite clear. The word "partnership", which has been almost drained of meaning through its overuse, must be injected with real content. I refer not only to the Canada-India bilateral partnership, but also to partnership in addressing major multilateral questions. I am not talking about talk -- but rather the issue-specific cooperation that serves to build coalitions in an increasingly complex world.

A major case in point is our preparation for the New Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations. We were pleased that, at Punta del Este, participating nations were able to achieve compromises on major issues. This will permit us to move forward on the most comprehensive set of multilateral trade negotiations ever attempted.

We are now entering serious bargaining in Geneva. On some issues, Canada and India have differing outlooks. For example, India questions the inclusion of services and other new areas for negotiation such as investment and intellectual properties. It is our view that we must make the GATT fully relevant to current economic realities. We can no longer ignore sectors such as services, at a time when the distinction between goods and services is becoming increasingly blurred.

I have every confidence that these differences will be resolved. Agriculture is one sector, for example, where Canada and India have a clear common interest in trying to correct dramatic price distortions. In commercial life we speak inevitably of the "bottom line". But the real bottom line, for both Canada and India, is the survival and strengthening of the multilateral trading system, and its further liberalization to help stimulate world economic growth that will benefit all countries.

Let me refer briefly to two areas in which we all have a vital interest: East-West relations, and arms control. I know you will agree that these areas cannot be left to the Superpowers as their exclusive domains.