

(1) agricultural policies must become more price responsive;

(2) support for agriculture should avoid production incentives, i.e. support should be for farmers, not for farming;

(3) countries should freeze and seek to reduce governmental assistance measures that artificially depress world prices;

(4) countries should not introduce new import barriers, not mandated by existing legislation;

(5) these basic principles must be implemented collectively.

Agreement on this set of principles would be an important step towards reversing the pressures which are responsible for the agricultural crisis. We will continue to promote these initiatives as we move into the MTN negotiations.

Canada is in the grain business for the long haul. We are not prepared to stand idle and let our markets be displaced by subsidized exports of others. We are providing assistance to our grain producers, to maintain our industry during this period of crisis, and we expect to emerge from this situation with our market share intact and our industry on a sound footing.

There were times in the past when agriculture was on the margins of concern of Canadian governments. Those days are behind us. In the Government generally, trade is more important than it was; and as we pursue our priorities in trade, the Prime Minister has placed agriculture at the top. These are not easy times, nor easy problems. They require the utmost determination and, for our part, that has been our record, and is our intention.