

- a focused work program on investment, competition policy, transparency in government procurement and trade facilitation.

In addition, ministers clarified intellectual property rules under the WTO Agreement on the Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPs Agreement) to reaffirm that it is consistent with ensuring that developing countries can have access to essential medicines in the face of diseases such as AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria.

The greatest benefit Canada could hope for from the DDA would be a significant reduction in U.S. and European Union farm subsidies. We would also like to address protectionism on the part of expanding developing countries such as India, China and Brazil, which still maintain significant tariff and non-tariff barriers to our goods and services. A point of great significance to Canada is that the DDA talks must take into account developing and least-developed countries' ability to implement any new rules, which may be improved through the provision of technical assistance.

