

ABROAD IN RESPONSE TO THE INCREASING GLOBAL IMPORTANCE OF LARGE-SCALE PROJECTS. THERE HAVE ALSO BEEN INCREASINGLY DIRECT CONSULTATIONS WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF CANADIAN INDUSTRY ON MAJOR INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ISSUES.

THE DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS ALSO HAS ITS ROLE TO PLAY. THE TRADITIONAL DISTINCTION BETWEEN FOREIGN POLICY AND DOMESTIC POLICY IMPLIES A HARD AND FAST DIVIDING LINE WHICH NO LONGER EXISTS -- IF EVER IT DID. THE INCREASING RANGE AND COMPLEXITY OF THE ECONOMIC ISSUES WE FACE REQUIRE AN INPUT BY THE DEPARTMENT TO THE GOVERNMENT'S POLICY FORMULATING PROCESS WHICH GOES BEYOND MERE CO-ORDINATION IN OTTAWA AND THE SIMPLE REPRESENTATION OF THE GOVERNMENT'S VIEW ABROAD. IT IS OUR JOB TO ENSURE THAT THE RANGE OF GOVERNMENT POLICIES, AT HOME AND ABROAD, REFLECT THE CHANGING INTERNATIONAL REALITIES I EARLIER DESCRIBED.

LET ME FOCUS NOW FOR A FEW MOMENTS ON WHAT OUR MULTILATERAL AND BILATERAL DIPLOMATIC EFFORTS ARE INTENDED TO ACHIEVE FOR THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY.

WITH REGARD TO OUR BILATERAL ECONOMIC RELATIONSHIP