

possibly free trade with Europe, at some point there is potential for a new trade arrangement that bridges all the blocs — a kind of WTO-plus. Membership in such a grouping would depend not on region but on a willingness to commit to more intensive, more comprehensive rules-based trade and investment....the real virtue of a WTO-plus approach is that it would mitigate the "them-versus-us" mentality associated with regional blocs....Does the rapid expansion of NAFTA, APEC and the EU signal the triumph of regionalism? Or is expansion itself a sign that the regional blocs must ultimately build toward a more comprehensive trading order? Are we coming to the realization that global firms operating in global markets will sooner or later need global rules?

Notes from an Address by The Honourable Roy MacLaren, Minister for International Trade, (Delivered by Allen Kilpatrick, Deputy Minister for International Trade), to the Centre for International Studies and the Centre for International Business, University of Toronto, "Canada's Trade Policy for the 21st Century: The Walls of Jericho Fall Down", (Toronto, Ontario, 18th of January, 1995).

Human rights is not only a UN Charter goal in its own right, but an objective of direct relevance to the UN's security, development and humanitarian aims. Canada played an important role in creating the office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights with a broad mandate for promotion, protection, prevention, and technical assistance, and for co-ordination of human rights activities throughout the UN system. I would like to know your thoughts on how this new position can be made as effective as possible because the challenge we face now is to give practical effect to this mandate, to integrate the activities of the High Commissioner and other human rights mechanisms into the UN's political, security and developmental work and into the preventive, peacekeeping and peace-building operations of the organization....Consequently, my personal belief is that while the nations of the world cannot always intervene to stop these human tragedies, governments with a concern for human rights, such as our own, must turn their attention to the area of conflict prevention and mediation. This has traditionally been the role of the peacekeepers, but more and more, those of us who travel to distant parts of the world for our government are convinced that the "soft" end of conflict prevention — the early warning, the mediation, the confidence building and education — needs to be developed.... We as a government, and you, the NGO community, must continue to work together to promote and protect human rights throughout the world. I am sure these two days of consultation will assist in furthering this goal during the 51st session of the Commission on Human Rights.

Notes from an Address by The Honourable Christine Stewart, Secretary of State (Latin America and Africa), at the 10th Annual Consultation between non-Governmental Organizations and the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade in Preparation for the 51st Session of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights, (Ottawa, Ontario, 17th of January, 1995).

UPCOMING EVENTS:

January 19-30:	Prime Minister Visits Latin America and the Caribbean
January 25-28	Foreign Affairs Minister Ouellet Visits Lebanon and Kuwait
January 27-28:	World Economic Forum (Davos, Switzerland)
February 6:	House of Commons Resumes Sitting
February 23-24:	U.S. President Clinton Visits Ottawa

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