

INTRODUCTION

This book is intended to provide a clause-by-clause guide to the bill entitled *An Act to Implement the Agreement Establishing the World Trade Organization*. The bill approves the Agreement signed by Canada, the other governments and the European Communities that participated in the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations under the GATT on April 15, 1994, and makes the legislative changes required to give effect in Canadian law to the provisions of the World Trade Organization Agreement ("WTO Agreement").

The bulk of the bill consists of:

- (a) amendments to various existing statutes, made necessary by the WTO Agreement provisions;
- (b) Schedule I which contains Canadian tariff provisions, Schedules II and III which relate to the *Western Green Transportation Act*, and finally, Schedule IV which contains miscellaneous consequential amendments.

Clause-by-clause notes are not provided for any part of the schedule.

Under the Canadian constitution, the federal government has the exclusive authority to enter into international treaties, but legislation is needed to give them legal effect in domestic law.

The Bill does all that is immediately necessary, by way of legislation, to ensure that Canada's obligations under the WTO Agreement will have been met by January 1, 1995.