obligations of the Parties."[56]

Evaluation: Although Canadian trade with the United States is much more significant than Israel's, it might be possible for Canada to obtain an assurance of this nature from the United States. The net effect is to avoid cumulation in safeguards cases and to exempt Canada unless its exports, considered alone, are the source of injury. Because an amendment to current U.S. law would not be needed, we feel that Canada is much more likely to obtain this type of assurance than a modification in the injury standard.

4. Political/Diplomatic Resolution

Because the Presidential decision on whether to grant import relief in safeguards cases is highly discretionary -- as well as political -- it is vital that the exporting countries be able to present their views on the proposed relief. Indeed, GATT Art. XIX requires a country contemplating the imposition of safeguards relief to consult with the exporting countries at the earliest possible stage. This principle was reaffirmed in the U.S.-Israel FTA, which provides:

"1. When a product is being imported in such increased quantities as to be a substantial cause of serious injury or the threat thereof to domestic producers of like or directly competitive products, the importing Party shall consult with the other party in accordance with

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[56] U.S.-Israel FTA Art. 5.