

future of Ukraine. Still broader and deeper reform measures are required if a market economy is to grow and flourish.

What is missing is the appropriate institutional and legal framework — a framework which in Western economies has been developed over the centuries. Here again is an area where Western governments are well suited to assist Ukraine. The challenge faced by the Ukrainian government is to step forward decisively to create the environment in which the market mechanism can work to the benefit of all Ukrainians.

By way of example, the Ukrainian public service has a vital role to play in developing the policies and legislation that will enable a market economy to function properly. Strengthening the public service has been a priority for Canada's technical assistance program with Ukraine. We are providing over \$4 million to the Institute of Public Administration in Kiev for public service training. Canadian experts have provided training in public administration and in critical areas for policy development: finance, economics and social policy. I was pleased to review the progress made on this project with Ukrainian Minister of Cabinet Pustovojtenko and to see what future areas of assistance Canada could provide.

International trade also requires an appropriate institutional framework that would enable Ukraine to become fully integrated into the world economy. The Ukrainian government has already taken an important step in this direction by initiating the process of accession to the World Trade Organization. We welcome its application and Canada is prepared to offer specific assistance to Ukraine to help facilitate accession to the World Trade Organization, such as providing trade policy training to Ukrainian public servants.

The support and guidance of the World Bank on privatization policies, social protection, financial sector reform and the development of the institutional framework for a market economy will be critical. Our officials are here to listen to the Ukrainian government's plans, and to offer their views based on experiences with policy reforms in some of these very same areas.

We also hope to share perspectives with the Ukrainian government on key sectoral policies — energy and agriculture come to mind. Energy sector reform will be critical in Ukraine to reduce dependency on energy imports and on higher-risk nuclear facilities. We are pleased to be able to say that the Canada, its G-7 partners and Ukraine are already working together on the task of raising nuclear safety levels and finding longer-term energy solutions. Both the World Bank and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development [EBRD] are playing critical roles in this process.