

A WIDE RANGE OF VIEWS AND COMMENTS - SOME MUTUALLY REINFORCING, OTHERS CONTRADICTORY - HAVE BEEN MADE AVAILABLE TO THE GOVERNMENT IN RESPECT OF CANADA'S PARTICIPATION IN THESE NEGOTIATIONS. THE LATEST TALLY OF FORMAL SUBMISSIONS TO THE CANADIAN TRADE AND TARIFFS COMMITTEE STANDS AT WELL OVER 300 AND MR. COUILLARD ADVISES THAT THERE HAVE BEEN SOME 130 SUBSTANTIVE SUPPLEMENTS, A NUMBER OF QUITE RECENT VINTAGE. MANY OF THESE SUBMISSIONS RELATE DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY TO YOUR ASSOCIATION'S OWN BRIEFS. I NOTE THAT CERTAIN CCPA MEMBERS HAVE MADE INDIVIDUAL SUBMISSIONS TO ENSURE THAT THEIR PARTICULAR CIRCUMSTANCES AND INTERESTS ARE WELL UNDERSTOOD. OTHER BRIEFS OUTLINE THE PREOCCUPATIONS OF COMPANIES OR ASSOCIATIONS WHICH ARE CONSUMERS OF YOUR BASIC OUTPUTS, OR THOSE WHO SUPPLY YOU WITH MACHINERY, EQUIPMENT, CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS AND OTHER GOODS AND SERVICES. STILL OTHERS PRESENT THE PERSPECTIVES OF PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENTS BOTH GENERAL AND SPECIFIC. AND, AS YOU KNOW, A NUMBER OF THE PROVINCES HAVE A VERY ACTIVE INTEREST IN THE WELL-BEING AND FUTURE OF THE CHEMICAL INDUSTRY IN CANADA. OTHER SUBMISSIONS HAVE LITTLE OR NO LINKAGE WITH YOUR OWN, BUT MANY OF THESE EXPRESS CONCERNS SIMILAR TO YOURS ABOUT THE RELATIVE COMPETITIVENESS OF OUR ECONOMY AT THE PRESENT TIME AND CERTAIN OF THE ECONOMIC CHALLENGES OUR COUNTRY FACES.

B. PERSPECTIVE ON THE INDUSTRY

THE CHEMICAL INDUSTRY MAKES A VITAL CONTRIBUTION TO CANADIAN MANUFACTURING AND TO THE ECONOMY AS A WHOLE.