

indebtedness. We have borne in mind the necessity of striking a just balance between international aid and the interests of Canadian producers. All our efforts to support Canadian trade hinge on new markets being opened up for Canadian exports, and on attracting foreign investors and their technology. As a trading nation we are working continuously toward safeguarding and expanding the trade system. We are resisting the forces of protectionism and striving to eliminate the tariff and non-tariff barriers that are hurting international trade.

This is a difficult area and it will become more so in the coming months. We are entering a decisive phase. I realize that these are questions that extend far beyond the realm of trade alone. They affect the deepest emotions of Canadians in their political, social and cultural implications. This is why we have begun a great debate on Canadian foreign policy. The mandate of this government is to restore to Canada a sense of national destiny and a sense of direction in the world. This brings us face to face with some choices. Canada can no longer afford to just mark time.