

Agreement, while continuing the important discussion of refining the TBT Agreement within the larger global context of the WTO.

Smaller Economies

Recommendations 8 and 9

Canada has been an active participant in meetings of the FTAA Consultative Group on Smaller Economies and has suggested a number of approaches to attain a clear and workable definition of a small economy. The difficulty in reaching agreement on a definition, however, has been caused largely by disagreement over the relationship between the concepts of "development" and "size". Canada provides tariff reductions to developing and least developed countries under both its General Preferential Tariff (GPT) and Least Developed Country Tariff (LDCT) programs, but would not be prepared to grant automatic privileges to countries only on the basis of their claim to "smaller economies" status.

Canada, via the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), has directed substantial technical assistance resources to the more vulnerable countries of the hemisphere with a view to reinforcing their capacity to fully integrate themselves in the world trading system and to participate fully in the FTAA negotiations process.

Regarding Recommendation No. 9, the Government has no intention of relinquishing its current position that all parties to an FTAA must be subject to the same undertakings and obligations. At the same time it is prepared to negotiate time-limited "privileges" (such as longer phase-in periods to reach the same level of obligations as other member countries) on an ad hoc basis, with individual countries, and for certain products. The Government will also continue its capacity building efforts to help smaller economies in this area.

Trade Remedies

Recommendations 17, 18 and 20

The Government agrees with the Committee that it is preferable to achieve improvements to anti-dumping rules at the multilateral level. Canada has been supportive of efforts to undertake negotiation of the WTO Anti-Dumping Agreement

