



### **Recommendation 19**

*“That, in an effort to improve market access as part of the WTO’s negotiations on agriculture, the Government of Canada advocate the establishment of a product-specific minimum access requirement of 5% using the most recently available consumption period as a base period. Clear and binding rules should govern the administration of the tariff rate quotas. Moreover, all in-quota tariffs should be abolished and those not protecting a tariff rate quota markedly reduced. A negotiated phase-in of import access level increases should also be implemented in parallel with the implementation and enforcement of new market access rules.”*

The Government agrees in principle with this recommendation. In the WTO agriculture negotiations, the Government is vigorously pursuing the objectives set out in Canada’s negotiating position. Canada is seeking real and substantial market access improvements for all agricultural and food products through a variety of negotiating techniques. For those products facing ordinary tariffs, Canada seeks maximum tariff reductions including substantial reductions in both the disparity in final bound rates for similar competing products and tariff escalation between primary and processed forms of the same product. For products facing tariff rate quotas (TRQs) Canada is seeking duty-free in-quota-access for a volume equal to at least 5% of current consumption of the product concerned, with the tariff quotas established on a product basis (e.g. pork, not meat) so that disparities in effective market access are reduced. Canada is also seeking rules to ensure that TRQ administration does not impede the access provided by the TRQ.

## **SERVICES**

### **Recommendation 20**

*“That the federal government undertake, and render public, an examination of the impact of Canada’s existing commitments under the GATS on the effective provision by Canadian governments of health, education and social services and on the Canadian regulatory structure affecting them. This study should be updated once the WTO negotiations on services are nearing completion.”*

The Government agrees with this recommendation. Canada’s participation in the WTO GATS negotiations is aimed at improving upon its services trade performance and enhancing market access abroad for Canadian service exporters. These important objectives can be achieved while preserving our flexibility in key policy areas. Hence, the Government will commission a study regarding the impacts of Canada’s current

