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designed to focus on the main non-tariff related challenges and opportunities of the Canada-EU relationship and will respond to the needs of our respective business communities by addressing priorities they have identified, including the growing importance of regulatory cooperation and investment, services, government procurement, intellectual property rights and trade facilitation. We look forward to the next round of negotiations in early fall 2005.

We will work to renew, reinforce and broaden the scope of the current Agreement Renewing a Cooperation Program in Higher Education and Training, notably through the addition of cooperation in the field of youth, to strengthen academic cooperation and transatlantic exchange between our citizens.

We re-affirm our commitment to working closely together on the following issues facing the international community:

Effective Multilateralism

A primary focus of the wide-ranging and growing Canada-EU agenda of cooperation on global issues is the promotion of a reinforced and effective multilateralism which puts results ahead of process.

We remain committed to a rules-based multilateral system with the United Nations as its central organ. This system embodies fundamental values the realization of which is essential to the security and well-being of our peoples and those of the entire world.

In this context, we welcome the report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations "In Larger Freedom" and its emphasis on the fact that development, security and human rights are interdependent. We express our commitment to seeing as many as possible of the proposals contained in this document enshrined in a comprehensive set of decisions by world leaders at the United Nations Summit in September 2005. We will work together to achieve this goal.

We strongly endorse, amongst other priorities, the recommendation of the United Nations Secretary General that leaders embrace the "responsibility to protect" as a basis for collective action against genocide, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity. We look forward to seeing these principles reflected in the decisions of the UN Security Council.

We emphasize that the state bears the primary responsibility for protecting civilians, but where the state is unable or unwilling to provide such protection, or where the state is itself the perpetrator, the international community has a responsibility to act, based on generally recognized criteria.

We further support the Secretary-General's recommendation that the Security Council adopt a resolution setting principles to guide its future decisions regarding the use of force.