



June 22, 1993

Dear Colleagues:

Today we are pleased to inform you of some organizational changes in the department. These changes will sharpen the department's focus on its core functions of foreign policy, trade policy, trade development and consular services. They are further evidence of our determination to strengthen our capacity as a foreign service and as a department to deal with change at home and abroad.

As you know, over the last few years we have encouraged discussion about the changing role of the department and the foreign service. Some of this interest was reflected in the discussions outlined in the Brockville paper (Managing for the Future), but there has been more than just debate--there's been action too. On the personnel side, we are working to implement the GE conversion, the restructuring of the FS group and the creation of a new management/consular stream. We have implemented a new training facility, the Canadian Foreign Service Institute, and are well into the introduction of new technology to serve the whole department, specifically SIGNET, MITNET and the library's enhanced information services.

Today's structural changes will allow us to create more streamlined and effective structures for our trade development, trade and economic policy, and general policy formulation functions.

The International Business Development Branch (formerly the Trade Development Branch) will be more responsive to private-sector requirements through the integration of the planning and consultation functions within the Branch. The Branch will have improved capability to develop trade instruments - designed to assist Canadian companies in expanding internationally - and to set priorities.

The Trade Policy Branch and part of the United States Trade and Economic Policy Bureau are being merged into the new, expanded Trade and Economic Policy Branch, grouping together trade and economic policy. This new branch will be designed to support the trade relations management functions of the geographic branches. The U.S. Branch will retain day-to-day responsibility for managing trade relations with the United States. Flexible reporting relationships will be introduced to ensure maximum benefit from these moves.