

This government was elected to create jobs and growth. As one important step, we have embarked on a campaign to reduce trade barriers around the world and to enhance Canada's access to markets everywhere.

We are pursuing these goals both on the multilateral front with all the countries participating in GATT and, as well, bilaterally with our major trading partner, the United States.

At the Bonn Summit in May, at the OECD, and elsewhere, we joined with other Western governments in calling for a new round of multilateral trade negotiations to pick up where the Tokyo round left off. But consensus in the developed world is not enough alone.

So, for several months we have been working to narrow the differences between the developed and the developing countries with respect to the MTN. This month, a delegation headed by a senior official of my department will be visiting Asian countries to get agreement on an agenda. Similar consultations have already been held with Columbia, Chile, Peru, Argentina and Brazil.