

established by the Ministerial Declaration of 1982. In Canada's view, however, various elements of this Work Programme are unlikely to be brought to a satisfactory conclusion outside of the context of the new Round of negotiations. Bringing the Work Programme to a satisfactory conclusion should thus be a high priority of the new negotiations.

6. The following paragraphs give a general indication of Canada's initial approach and attitudes on the main questions which, in its view, should be included on the MTN agenda and set out Canada's preliminary overall objectives and priorities in the negotiations. These objectives and priorities primarily reflect a desire to: halt protectionism and seek further expansion of access to markets; develop new rules of conduct for agricultural trade; seek tighter disciplines on the use of subsidies and on contingency protection measures; develop a framework for trade in services; and strengthen the effectiveness of the rule of law and non-discrimination governing international trade.

A. Halting Protectionism and Improving Market Access

7. The maintenance of open trading channels and the further improvements of access to export markets are vital to Canada. They are also essential elements for the intensification and strengthening of trading relationships within the multilateral trading system. Canada urges further improvement in market access conditions on as broad a basis as possible in terms of both products and markets, including in respect of customs duties. This should include the prospect of total tariff elimination in particular product areas.

8. This objective is central to restoring the confidence of the business communities in the determination and capacity of contracting parties to halt erosion of the open trading system, to reduce the risks of accelerating protectionism and to restore trade liberalization momentum. A broadly-based market opening effort would offer the prospect of significantly advancing the economic development and trade interests of both developing and developed countries.

9. Improved market access conditions in respect of agricultural and food products, fisheries, industrial resource (non-ferrous metals and forest products) and energy-based (petrochemicals) industries and related equipment and services, a range of advanced-technology and transportation equipment as well as trade in some services will be of particular Canadian interest. These sectors are still facing important barriers or trade-distorting measures in Canada's major markets, for example in the form of tariffs (often still relatively high or with escalation), quantitative restrictions, restrictive government procurement practices or subsidies of various sorts.

10. A major element of market opening measures should concern the extension of the existing GATT Agreement on Government Procurement to include entities which are the main purchasers of products not now subject