

Foreword and Acknowledgements

This volume brings together the results of some of the trade-related research and analysis undertaken within and on behalf of the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade over the past year. It builds on the research undertaken in recent years, and subsequently compiled in previous volumes in this series, *Trade Policy Research 2001* and *Trade Policy Research 2002*.

The content in the first two volumes of this series reflected the debate in trade policy circles as the context shifted radically from the post-Seattle WTO Ministerial soul searching to the post-Doha assessments of prospects for the current round of multilateral trade negotiations, the ninth since the establishment of the GATT in 1947.

This year's volume continues in that vein, emphasizing issues in the multilateral trade sphere—and reflecting the atmosphere that prevails as the Doha Development Agenda moves towards its planned half-way mark at the Fifth WTO Ministerial Meeting in Cancun, Mexico, in September 2003.

This year's collection of essays and articles features a contribution from the Minister for International Trade, the Honourable Pierre S. Pettigrew. His essay "Reconciling the Spirit and Ethics of Liberalism in the 21st Century" is particularly timely. It celebrates the spirit of liberalism which has intellectually underpinned the internationalism that fashioned the post-WWII international rules-based framework and underwrote the unprecedented expansion of trade and investment over the past half-century on which so much of today's prosperity depends. Today, at a time when doubts about the future of multilateralism as we have known it dominate discussion, his message sounds an important counterpoint.

Part I of the current volume addresses the issues confronting the Doha Development Agenda, the constructive tension between competitive regionalism and multilateralism, and the evolving consequences for international trade of the post Sep-