

The reduction in tariffs and non-tariff barriers in Europe, Japan and Korea, although more limited than we would have wished, will enhance the export competitiveness of the fish products industry in Atlantic Canada and British Columbia.

The Agreement will produce a more market-oriented and global trading environment for our agricultural sector. The reductions in export subsidies and in the volume of subsidized exports will put our field crops, particularly grains and oilseeds from the Prairies, on a more equal footing with those of our principal competitors.

At the same time, supply management will be able to continue operating as an effective Canadian approach to producing and marketing dairy and poultry products. The Agreement allows for the continuation of supply management systems through high import tariffs that will maintain a real security for these sectors.

New rules and disciplines on sanitary and phytosanitary measures will improve prospects for exports of many Canadian agricultural and forest products.

The reduction and harmonization at lower rates of tariffs for chemicals and chemical products will improve access to world markets, especially in Asia and Latin America, for our producers concentrated in Alberta, Saskatchewan, Ontario and Quebec.

Sectoral free trade for pharmaceuticals will result in lower import costs and improved market access, and will enhance exports to offshore markets, particularly from Quebec and Ontario. Improved protection for intellectual property will enhance prospects for investment and for research and development.

The Canadian communications and electronic equipment industries, concentrated in Quebec and Ontario, will benefit from the substantial reduction of tariffs in important industrialized markets. Software and computer services exports will be facilitated by the agreements on services and trade-related intellectual property.

Canada has many strengths in the services sector that will benefit from increased global market opportunities brought about by the new General Agreement on Trade and Services (GATS). Services in which Canada is competitive internationally include various professional and management consulting services, technical testing, financial, computer and environmental services, telecommunications, air transport, tourism, commercial education and training, health-related services, geomatics, maintenance and repair, and services incidental to agriculture, mining, forestry, energy, and manufacturing.

Increased clarity and discipline in the use of multilateral trade rules, particularly countervailing duties, as well as more effective dispute settlement mechanisms, will provide greater security of access for Canadian products in many markets. Canadian products