

In the textile and clothing negotiations, we are seeking to effectively bring this important sector fully within the GATT system. This will take place through a progressive and equitable phasing out of the complex bilateral network of export restraints now in place between exporters and importers around the world. The current Multi-Fibre Arrangement expires at the end of 1992, but we expect an international transition period of up to 10 years under the Uruguay Round package.

The draft text agreements on trade rules that should emerge from the Geneva talks this week are expected to contain the elements of what could effectively be a systematic reform and updating of the old GATT, dealing with both fair and unfair trade practices. For Canada, new multilateral agreements on subsidies and countervailing duty procedures and on anti-dumping practices, will be particularly important. For example, our objective in the case of subsidies/countervail will be to better define trade-distorting subsidies and establish criteria to exempt regional development and research and development from countervailing duties.

With respect to trade-related intellectual property matters, the draft text of agreements should contain a comprehensive set of new rules. This will include a strengthening of the level of protection of international standards in respect of patents, copyright, trademarks, appellations of origin, and other intellectual property rights. It will also deal with various discriminating features of domestic and border enforcement regimes, as well as with trade-restrictive unilateral measures facing Canadian exporters.

International trade in services is a high-growth area of economic activity in Canada and abroad. We expect the Geneva package will include a new