

In addition, ministers clarified intellectual property rules under the WTO Agreement on the Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPs Agreement) to reaffirm that it is consistent with ensuring that developing countries can have access to essential medicines in the face of diseases such as AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria.

The greatest benefit Canada could hope for from the DDA would be a significant reduction in U.S. and EU farm subsidies. We would also like to address protectionism on the part of expanding developing countries such as India, China and Brazil, which still

maintain significant tariff and non-tariff barriers to our goods and services exports, while maintaining some practices (such as subsidies) that distort trade with third markets. We believe that there is ample scope for achieving such access improvements in mutually beneficial ways.

Besides creating new opportunities through the reciprocal exchange of concessions, the Doha Development Agenda will also

allow trading nations to strengthen, update and expand the rules-based system. Because national approaches to a range of issues and policies with economic effects can have an impact outside a country's borders, rules are important to ensure a balance between the interests of various members of the world trading community and to provide a predictable framework for national policy development. They are also, in the real world, far preferable for a smaller economy to the "law of the jungle" that would otherwise prevail. Canada hopes to use the rules to bring predictability into new areas such as electronic commerce, as well as greater discipline into such long-standing problem areas as subsidies, countervailing measures and anti-dumping actions. We also hope for greater clarity and therefore predictability in dispute settlement procedures, in the interplay of WTO and regional trade regimes, and in the area of the interrelationship between WTO

