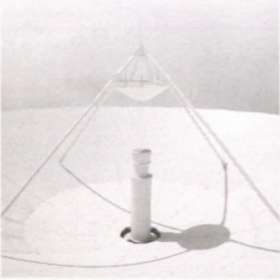


trade and investment; and by remaining open to the world ourselves. To advance this objective, we are seeking consensus at Seattle to launch broad-based negotiations to be concluded within three or four years.



The Government agrees with recommendation 7 and the need to address implementation issues to ensure that all WTO Member countries abide by their obligations. Better implementation will build confidence in the WTO and its rules. This, in turn, will provide a solid foundation for further liberalization.

While Canada will achieve substantial benefits from the new negotiations, the Government would be remiss if it did not point out that negotiation is a two-way street. Canada's extensive experience at international trade negotiating tables, however, teaches us that "win-win" outcomes are both achievable and lasting.

Consulting with Canadians (recommendations 1,2, and 8)

Fully one-third of the Committee's recommendations encourage the Government to engage and consult Canadians as we prepare for new negotiations. The Government has been, and remains, committed to a program of consultations with Canadians to learn their aspirations and concerns first-hand, so that our negotiating positions best meet the needs of all Canadians. Consultations to date reveal that Canadians realize that we live in an increasingly interconnected world, and that they favour liberalized trade. There is also an appreciation of the need to ensure that the benefits of trade are distributed widely and that Canadian values are protected. The Government will continue its outreach and consultation efforts to keep Canada's trade agenda attuned to what Canadians are saying as negotiations proceed and issues become more clearly defined.

In order to provide Canadians with timely information, updates on Canada's trade policy agenda are provided on the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade website at www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/tna-nac/. Canadians have been encouraged to appear before Parliamentary committees and continue to participate