

RECEIVED JAN 29 2009

Minister of International Trade and
Minister for the Asia-Pacific Gateway



Ministre du Commerce international et
ministre de la porte d'entrée de l'Asie-Pacifique

Ottawa, Canada K1A 0G2

FEB 24 2009

The Honourable L'honorable
Stockwell Day

JAN 28 2009

The Honourable Perrin Beatty
President and Chief Executive Officer
The Canadian Chamber of Commerce
420 - 360 Albert Street
Ottawa, Ontario
K1R 7X7

Dear Mr. Beatty:

Thank you for your letter of December 11, 2008, regarding the WTO Doha Development Agenda. I appreciate the views of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce on these negotiations.

The Government shares your support for an ambitious outcome to the Doha Round negotiations. Canada remains staunchly committed to working with its WTO partners to continue to build a strong multilateral trading system that benefits Canadians. While we are disappointed that it was not possible to conclude modalities for a final deal last year, Canada accepts the decision of Director-General Pascal Lamy that calling a meeting of ministers this past December may have presented unacceptable risks.

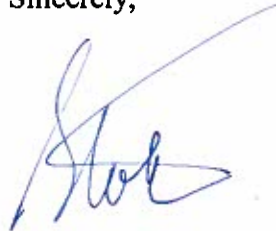
Canada supports the agenda for continued action in 2009 as set out by Director-General Lamy on December 17, 2008. Mr. Lamy has set out clear next steps for the Doha Round negotiations, as well as actions for the WTO on other important global trade-related issues. There appears to be broad consensus among WTO members to continue the work to ensure that what has been accomplished is not lost, and to further strengthen the multilateral trading system. Canada particularly welcomes the use of the WTO as a mechanism to monitor and address members' new trade measures that may contravene the standstill commitments set out in the November 2008 G20 and APEC leaders' declarations. It is indeed vital in this period of economic uncertainty that every effort be taken to keep markets open, and the WTO is well placed to contribute to this objective.

.../2

Canada

I can assure you that we will continue to consult with stakeholders in the development of our international trade policy. I want to thank you and your organization for your ongoing input and strong support for an ambitious outcome to these negotiations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Stockwell Day', with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke above the name.

Hon. Stockwell Day
Minister of International Trade and
Minister for the Asia-Pacific Gateway

c.c.: The Honourable Gerry Ritz, P.C., M.P.

P.S. Hoping to make some
progress at Davos.
S.