

Winners and Losers: NEGOTIATING NAFTA: THE TRINATIONAL OPPOSITION

Ken Newman

It now appears that the North American Free Trade Agreement talks between Canada, Mexico, and the U.S. are rapidly coming to closure. The official process of negotiating the agreement required the three governments to rethink their traditional stances toward the other two countries. Compared with the European Community experience, the NAFTA discussions were substantially behind closed doors. The process itself was designed to blunt attempts to widen the scope of the talks or to imbed the "social agenda" in the text of the agreement. One unanticipated consequence of the process was the creation of a remarkably lively trinational interchange of groups concerned about or opposed to NAFTA. This interchange is all the more remarkable considering the enormous imbalance of financial resources between groups in favor of NAFTA, who have spent as much as \$200 million, and those opposed to NAFTA, who have spent an estimated maximum of \$5 million.

Most NAMI readers are familiar with the configuration of U.S. opposition to NAFTA -- especially as it evolved during the fast-track discussions. This unusual (if not unprecedented) alignment of labor, environmental, and social constituencies mounted a high-visibility campaign by taking forward the concept of "winners and losers." Apart from the formal anti-NAFTA fast-track campaign exists the array of working groups and constituencies (See **Opposition**, Page 4)

BORDER ENVIRONMENTAL ASSEMBLY, COLLOQUY TO BE HELD IN SANTA FE

The first annual **U.S.-Mexico Border Environmental Assembly** will take place on June 25, 1992, in Santa Fe. Its purpose is to broaden public understanding of and participation in the recently developed "Integrated Environmental Plan for the Mexico-U.S. Border Area." The meeting is sponsored jointly by the federal environmental agencies of the United States and Mexico and will feature talks by leaders from the two countries, including William K. Reilly, Administrator, of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; Luis Donaldo Colosio Murrieta, newly appointed Secretary of Mexico's Social Development Secretariat; Timothy B. Atkeson, Assistant EPA Administrator; Congressman Bill Richardson of New Mexico; and Judith Espinosa, Secretary, New Mexico State Environment Department.

The **Border Colloquy** will be held on Friday, June 26, 1992, also in Santa Fe. This meeting is sponsored by the EPA and Mexico's Environment Secretariat, the Commerce Departments of Mexico and the United States, the North American Institute, and the Engineering Research Institute and State Environmental Departments of New Mexico. Top-level officials from these agencies will be present, as will Jaime Serra Puche, Secretary of the Ministry of Commerce and Industrial Development of Mexico; Congressman Jim Kolbe from Arizona; and U.S. Senator Pete Domenici from New Mexico.

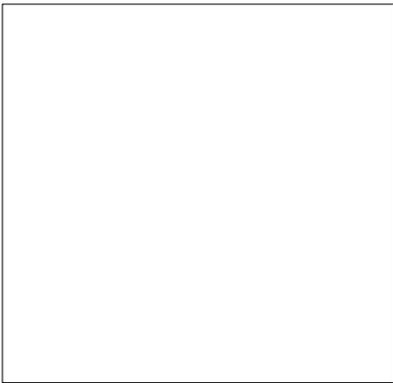
Working sessions are scheduled on identifying, addressing, and financing border infrastructure needs in the 1990s.

The U.S.-Mexico Border: Recent Articles

The Atlantic Monthly has published two lengthy articles on the Mexico-U.S. border. An article in the May 1992 issue focuses on immigration, drugs, and law enforcement, while one in the June issue looks at economic and environmental concerns. *Planning the Border's Future: An Analysis of the Mexican-U.S. Environmental Plan* is a recent report published by the U.S.-Mexican Policy Studies Program at the University of Texas. (See **Publications** on Page 8 for information.)

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NAMI FORUM ON EDUCATION AND COMPETITIVENESS MEETS IN OTTAWA

Prepared by Rod Dobell and
Others

North Americans have some urgent lessons to learn about learning, NAMI panelists concluded at their recent forum on **Education for an Economically Competitive and Socially Responsible North America** in Ottawa.

Traditional educational systems have been educating our children and young people to join North American societies and economies that no longer exist as affluent and apparently self-sufficient entities, forum participants said. If we are to prepare citizens to be responsive and competitive in the global marketplace of the 21st century, we must develop flexible, resilient, self-regulating learning systems in our organizations and institutional networks. Participants also concluded that the advent of personal computers and the sprouting of electronic networks will have a profound impact on the development and operation of educational systems.

The two-day forum, "Live and Learn -- Learn and Live," was the eighth in NAMI's regular, twice-annual series of plenary sessions to discuss fundamental features of the emerging North American community. Forty-seven distinguished representatives from Canada, the U.S., and Mexico deliberated the issues for two days in May at the Parliament Buildings in Ottawa, Canada.

The Mexican delegation was ably represented by Academy Award-winner Manuel Arango, a leading environmental-

ist and founding partner of Mexico's largest retail chain; Adrian Lajous, columnist, businessman, and former executive director at the World Bank; Jorge Castaneda, a popular and controversial journalist and professor of political science and international relations; and Emilio Carrillo, Mexico's Ambassador to Canada until 1989.

Other prominent attenders included Frank Newman, president of the Education Commission of the States; Don Newquist, Chairman of the U.S. Trade Commission; Jim Nininger, President and CEO of the Conference Board of Canada; and Geraldine Kenney-Wallace, President of McMaster University and keynote speaker at the conference.

Participants agreed that economic competitiveness must be a primary goal of modern learning systems, but that it is one that is difficult to achieve. Because of the vast disparities between the systems of each country, corrective measures are better devised and applied on a regional basis.

In addition to preparing new entrants into the labor force, educational systems should focus on training and retraining existing work force members, they concluded. With respect to retraining and apprenticeship programs, the potential value of uniform standards within North America was suggested (and contested). The possibility of a trinational agency monitoring and reporting on labor market developments and retraining programs was also raised. It was noted that issues of economic adjustment and retraining will become increasingly important (and controversial) in light of moves toward trade liberalization and further North American economic integration.

There is also much to be done in the area of reciprocal measures for certification and training. At the university level, work on international agreements for reciprocal recognition of credentials is already well advanced in a number of fields, and accelerated exchanges of students and faculty are being examined.

Conference participants discussed the responsibilities of private sector businesses, institutions, and individuals with respect to education. They also considered the potential roles of government in

economic adaptation, identifying objectives, and ensuring fairness in education.

It was emphasized that learning is for life as well as for work, with a need for teamwork and cooperation as well as competition. Skills need to be developed for participation in a democratic society as well as in an efficient economy.

Participants discussed how groups learn and adapt, and how the international transmission of ideas and the transnational activities of nongovernmental organizations shape both the challenges and responses of nations to education and the creation of knowledge. Jorge Castaneda and David Ronfeldt of the Rand Corporation discussed the growing role of trinational networking groups.

A full record of forum proceedings will be available from the NAMI Secretariat later in the summer.

The forum was an energetic exchange of views on education and human resources and leads naturally into the theme of "Identities in North America: The Search for Community" planned for the next NAMI forum, to be held the weekend of November 8, 1992, in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Canada, Mexico Sign Labor Agreement

The ministers of labor of Canada and Mexico have signed an agreement that provides for "technical exchanges, joint studies, conferences, seminars, and information sharing on a range of labor issues," officials said. Canadian Labor Minister Marcel Danis told reporters he was "impressed" with Mexican labor legislation. "They've had things since 1917, like maternity leave and anti-scab legislation, that we still don't have." For their part, Danis said that the Canadians will share with Mexico "our enforcement methods dealing with labor standards, occupational safety, and so on." Mexican Labor Secretary Arsenio Farell Cubillas said that closer ties and sharing of workplace information between the two countries "is indispensable, given the current international context and the anticipated growth in the economic relationship between Canada and Mexico." (*El Financiero International*, 5/18/92)

Opposition (from page 1)

which, while not necessarily opposed to an agreement, seek to broaden the discussion and assert a stake in the process.

The critique of NAFTA has been influenced by two key factors: the actual experience of the U.S.-Canada Free Trade Agreement, and the transformation of the Mexican government's strategies of self-presentation in the U.S.

The Salinas *sexenio* ushered in a completely refashioned attitude toward the U.S. In purely tactical terms, Mexico moved from being one of the least adroit actors "inside the Beltway" to perhaps the most adroit. (This was paralleled but not matched by Washington's clearer vision of itself as an actor "inside the *periferico*.") An essential part of the Salinas strategy was to move U.S. press coverage of Mexico from the news section to the business pages and keep it there. From the perspective of groups opposed to NAFTA, rather than leveling the playing field, this effectively relocated the playing field to a less congenial place. What ensued was a struggle between competing discourses: The discourse of the private sector, trade blocs, and globalization vis- a-vis North America versus the discourse of popular and cross-sectoral exchange, "winners and losers," and traditional protectionism, vis- a-vis North America.

The negotiation of the U.S.-Canada FTA gave both the Canadian administration and the Canadian opposition substantial experience in negotiating with the U.S. Almost immediately upon the announcement of U.S.-Mexican talks, both Canadian groups engaged their counterparts in Mexico -- an engagement that actively persists. By the time the FTA was broadened to include Canada, an array of Canadian groups (spearheaded by the Action Canada Network) had coalesced as an actual opposition seeking to defeat NAFTA rather than to alter it. This differed substantially from similar groups in the U.S. and Mexico, many of which sought to oppose the fast track rather than oppose a NAFTA that had yet to be defined. The Canadian Common Frontiers organization initiated a cross-border consultative process, which resulted in more than fourteen binational and trinational sectoral working groups that continue to meet regularly.

It was not merely the experience of the U.S.-Canada FTA that got the Canadian opposition "up and running." As Cathryn Thorup states, "Canadian organizers say they '...met Mexico on the way to Central America.' This is a reference to the fact that early contacts with Mexican nongovernmental organizations were through collaboration on the resettlement of Central American refugees in the 1980s." ("The Politics of Free Trade and the Dynamic of Cross-Border Coalitions in U.S.-Mexican Relations" by Cathryn Thorup in *The Columbia Journal of World Business*, Summer 1991.)

In the U.S., the critique of NAFTA might be described as falling into three categories: (1) traditional protectionist groups; (2) legislators, lobbyists, and policy makers who are largely event-driven (i.e., by the fast-track vote or by the elections); and (3) social constituencies and actors who seek to leverage the process. This latter group includes environmentalists, human rights groups, Hispanic groups, some unions, and women's groups. Organizations such as U.S.-Mexico Dialogos link various constituencies in an ongoing informational discussion which has existed, and will continue to exist, beyond NAFTA.

The NAFTA process in the U.S. has had some interesting consequences. The Hispanic community has shown that it is much more diverse than it was perceived to be by the U.S. power structure. The Mexican government has recognized the need to make serious, multifaceted overtures to the U.S. Hispanic community. Groups such as the National Council of La Raza, the Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund, the League of United Latin American Citizens, the Southwest Voter Research Institute, and the Congressional Hispanic Caucus have responded very differently to NAFTA, forcing both the U.S. and Mexican administrations to develop more sophisticated and nuanced approaches.

Unions have adopted a more hemispheric, integrationist position in contradistinction to the AFL-CIO. The activity of U.S. foundations and think tanks in the NAFTA process has spurred interest in augmenting such activity in Mexico and Canada. Cross-sectoral linkage has given U.S. legislators the latitude to object to NAFTA on the environmental level or on

the union level without alienating particular constituencies. (That process, however, forces those same legislators to reassess their stances toward environmental issues that do not have a direct application in their respective districts.)

Who, then, are the "winners and losers" in the NAFTA negotiating process, or is this a moot point? The three governments have pursued NAFTA with exceptional skill and clarity of purpose. However, critical and opposition groups in all three countries have essentially achieved their goal of moving the discussion from "NAFTA" to "North America," and from the parsimony of a trade relationship to the reality of a continental interdependence well underway -- NAFTA or no NAFTA.

Ken Newman is a media consultant based in Rhode Island, USA.

Agreement Reported Reached on Rules of Origin and Autos

According to sources close to the NAFTA negotiations, broad agreement has been reached regarding rules of origin and autos, two potentially divisive areas. Rules of origin have been set at 60 percent for the North American region, according to a report in the *Wall Street Journal*. With this general agreement, the three negotiating teams will now look for an acceptable formula to define what will qualify as being local.

Agreement has also been reached in some important areas of the auto sector, with American negotiators acceding to demands from Mexico on a number of points, including recognition that the so-called "chicken-war tariff" on light trucks amounts to a quota system. American negotiators have also backed down on the entry of used vehicles from the United States into Mexico, agreeing to Mexican proposals that the market be opened in the future, but without any specific timetable. The U.S. negotiating team has agreed to a ten-year phase-out period for the Mexican Automobile Industry Decree, which requires all foreign automakers to maintain a positive trade balance. The agreement also provides for an equal phase-out period for protection of the Mexican auto parts industry. (*El Financiero International*, 5/18/92)

LOOKING AHEAD: COMPARING THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY AND NAFTA

Elizabeth Santillanez

The North American Free Trade Agreement negotiations have sparked more interest in the U.S. than any other trade issue in recent history. It remains to be seen how quickly the agreement will be negotiated pending the resolution of sticky issues such as the trade of autos, energy, rules of origin, and financial services, and the outcome of election strategies. The move toward a free trade agreement in North America can be viewed as a response to the development of regional trading blocs in other areas of the world, such as Europe and Asia. The purpose of this article is to point out some of the relevant comparisons between the proposed NAFTA and the European Community, and to draw some conclusions from this analysis.

Some obvious comparisons between the proposed NAFTA and the EC are statistical. The NAFTA would unite 360 million people into an integrated market with a total output of \$6 trillion. The EC unites 342 million citizens in an area covering most of Western Europe, with a gross domestic product of about \$5 trillion. With the recent decision to add the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) members including Norway, Sweden, Finland, Switzerland, Austria, and Iceland into a European Economic Area, the integrated European market has grown to encompass 380 million consumers.

Beyond these statistical comparisons, it is important to point out some of the major structural differences between the European Community and the proposed NAFTA. The EC is much more than a single trading entity. The EC is a political creation, with the goals of the creation of a single market by 1992, economic and monetary union, and political unification. The EC definition of a single market includes provisions for the free movement of goods, people, capital, and services within the 12-member region.

In contrast, the goal of the proposed NAFTA is to provide for the free flow of commerce within North America, primarily through the elimination of tariffs and

non-tariff barriers. The NAFTA negotiations are very restricted compared with the broad-ranging EC objectives of economic and political unification. As currently envisioned by the U.S., Canadian, and Mexican administrations, the NAFTA will not address issues such as immigration, for example, and it remains to be seen how the negotiators will address certain issues such as the movement of capital and services.

Another important issue to consider is the divergence of economies within North America and the EC. The U.S. GNP is 10 times as large as the Canadian GNP and over 25 times as large as the Mexican GNP. In the richest regions of the EC, gross domestic product per capita is more than six times higher than in the poorest regions. Obviously, the degree of divergence of the three North American economies is much more drastic than in the EC, and this will greatly complicate the movement toward North American integration. The EC has addressed its economic disparities through the application of structural policies aimed at reducing gaps between its more developed and less developed regions. In addition, all members of the EC, with the exception of the United Kingdom, have adopted a Community Charter of Fundamental Social Rights for Workers (also known as the "social charter") to harmonize labor and other social policies within the Community.

In sum, while the objectives of the NAFTA are very restricted in comparison with the broad economic, political, and social objectives of the EC, the U.S., Canada, and Mexico can look to the model of the European Community to learn how to manage problems associated with the integration process, such as the question of how to conduct fair and equitable trade relations with the poorer regions of Mexico. Already, some policymakers are suggesting that, like the European Community, the North American nations should negotiate a social charter to address labor and environmental issues which are being largely ignored in the NAFTA negotiations. Furthermore, President Bush has talked about the eventual establishment of a western hemispheric free trade area through his Enterprise for the Americas Initiative. If the NAFTA negotiations are successfully concluded and eventually

lead to the opening up of free trade agreements with other Latin American nations, the task of managing these relations will become more complex and challenging. Although the American nations may not want to duplicate the European regionalist model, it is important to acknowledge and learn from advances achieved by the EC, and to compare and contrast economic, social, and political needs, strategies, and outcomes.

Elizabeth Santillanez is a Policy Analyst specializing in international relations with the Western Governors' Association. In October 1991 she conducted a study tour of the EC as the recipient of a European Community Visitors Grant. She specializes in analyzing the NAFTA negotiations, and plans to continue studying comparisons between the NAFTA and the EC. The opinions expressed in this article are solely those of the author, and do not reflect the opinions of any particular organization.

NAFTA Predictions

Ciemex Wharton, an American consulting firm, has released a report predicting the Mexican economy (and foreign investment in Mexico) will slow down dramatically if the proposed NAFTA does not go ahead. If the NAFTA is implemented, another group of specialists from El Colegio de Mexico asserts that the Mexican economy could grow as much as 8 percent with a zero-tariff structure. At the same time, the Mexican National Statistics Institute (INEGI) and the commerce Secretariat (Secofi) suggest that the country could lose up to 23 percent of its manufacturing industry and 14 percent of its jobs during the first two years of a NAFTA. The most vulnerable industries, according to government data, will be the food, , machinery, and metal industries.

In the U.S., President Bush continues to forecast a completed treaty before the November presidential election. However, during the recent 32nd Inter-Parliamentary meeting in San Antonio, U.S. congressmen described a treaty this year as extremely unlikely.

Note: The following article was sent recently by Fraser Wilson for publication in NAMI News, in place of Mr. Wilson's regular column.

PROSPERITY AND SUSTAINABILITY: THE CANADIAN DEBATE

G. E. Connell

Last year, the government of Canada launched a major national debate on prosperity, defining prosperity by conventional economic indicators such as the gross national product -- a narrow definition, in terms of sustainable development.

The reasons for urgent attention to economic prosperity are compelling. Canada has been severely buffeted over the last 20 years by tremendous swings in the markets for oil and gas and for most other resources. We have seen two major recessions. We have absorbed major transformations in taxation and in the rules of international trade. Most of our resource industries -- agriculture, forest products, and fisheries -- are in deep trouble. Our manufacturing industries are facing intense competition, not only from the U.S., Europe, and Japan, but also from the emerging nations of Asia and Latin America. The cost of maintaining our domestic infrastructure and social benefits is immense. Our obligations to disadvantaged groups both at home and abroad loom large.

There are, nonetheless, grounds for confidence and optimism. Canadian natural resources are the envy of most nations of the world; we are especially abundant in water resources. Our political system, save for the upheaval of the constitutional debate, is stable. Our systems of transportation, communication, and banking are mature and dependable. A major tune-up, a change of attitude, a little more know-how and confidence, and an ability to capitalize on our opportunities and advantages could transform our current experience from a dispiriting slog to an inspiring and rewarding sprint.

While we pursue narrow economic goals, however, we must maintain a wider view of prosperity, and we must keep in mind not only the costs and benefits of our actions for our own generation, but for many generations to come. This is the

message of the Brundtland Report, *Our Common Future*, and it is one message that the National Round Table on the Environment and the Economy brings to the prosperity debate. If we accept uncritically the proposition that economic growth, whatever the means and whatever the costs, should dominate our national strategy, we run the risk of repeating the tragedies of the industrial revolution.

Another question implicit in the national debate is "Prosperity for whom?" This can be answered in part by the conventional platitude "For all Canadians," but the answer hardly does justice to the question. The commitment to social equity is deeply entrenched in Canada, and it would be reasonable to assume that the benefits of enhanced national prosperity would be widely distributed across the nation. A more challenging response to that question comes again from the Brundtland Report. The Commission clearly viewed sustainable development as a global challenge (hence the title, *Our Common Future*). If we are going to address effectively the issue of intergenerational equity, we will first have to deal with international equity. Sustainable development in Canada could be rendered meaningless if the less developed countries were unable to break out of their poverty and their dependence upon nonrenewable consumption.

Here is a fundamental paradox. We are apparently committing ourselves to be more competitive. Usually a competition has winners and losers. If we are the winners we would expect to enrich ourselves, but if the game impoverishes the losers there can in reality be no winners.

The way to resolve the paradox is to regard the competition as an urgent search for more economical ways to produce goods and to deliver services of high quality. These ways should be less demanding of nonrenewable resources and energy, and less productive of waste that contaminates air, water, and land. As we achieve successes in this quest, we must make every effort to ensure that the benefits of our achievements are disseminated widely, through international trade. And the ultimate success would be to have our sustainable growth shared by others, beginning with our fellow citizens in the North American community.

I should like to state a few of the premises I believe ought to guide our thinking as we launch our deliberations on prosperity. These premises may help guide the thinking of any community:

1. We must have a collective understanding of what constitutes a prosperous nation. Even while our debate is sharply focused on industrial productivity and competitiveness in international trade, we can ensure that the costs and consequences of enhancing our productivity are consistent with broader long-term national goals. Prosperity should not be confused with unbridled material consumption.
2. We must give high priority to the development of the talents and motivation of our people. There can be no doubt that our well-being as a nation in the long run depends absolutely upon the knowledge, creativity, energy, and commitment of the Canadian people.
3. We must make sure that we have appropriate indicators of our economic prosperity. The standard indicators must be modified and supplemented to delineate progress toward sustainable development. We have, in the past, given too much weight to the current account -- income and expenses -- and too little to the capital account. We must make efforts to measure our major productive assets -- our land, water, and forests. We must ensure that capital stock is restored and preserved, and productive capacity maintained.
4. In our concern for environmental protection and sustainable development, we must make sure that our policies are based upon sound evidence, analysis, and reasoning. The well-meaning introduction of totally unnecessary abatement or control measures could do fatal damage in the marketplace to a product or process that would otherwise be competitive with the best in the world. It would also divert capital from other control measures that might be much more rewarding.
5. National prosperity in both the narrow and broad definitions will depend upon continuing investment. Even the most environmentally sustainable initiatives will require investment. It will not be helpful to the environment, or to prosperity, if we inadvertently create conditions that prevent a fair return to those who create new enterprises.
6. The government's discussion paper has drawn attention to the need for efficient (See **Prosperity**, Page 7)

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regulation of the domestic marketplace. This need applies as much to environmental regulation as it does to the regulation of competition and fair dealing. We should hope and expect to have high environmental standards, and should make every effort to ensure that these are enforced in a fair, timely, and efficient manner.

The conventional view of environmental regulation is that it is a deadweight on the profitable enterprise, and is therefore antithetical to economic prosperity. This view is not unfounded. However, there is a growing body of opinion that sound environmental policies, in fact, can have positive effects on competitiveness and prosperity.

Bruce Doern, writing for the C.D. Howe Institute ("Canadian Environmental Policy: Why Process Is Almost Everything," in *Commentary*, No. 19, July 1990, the C.D. Howe Institute) observed that "tough environmental standards or new pricing approaches can create opportunities for the competitive development of new products and technologies." Michael Porter, writing in *Scientific American* (April 1991, p. 168) argued that "strict environmental regulations do not inevitably hinder competitive advantage against foreign rivals; indeed, they often enhance it."

It is important, then, to search out policies that will lead us in the direction to which Doern, Porter, and the CEIA are pointing. The critical first steps surely must be to ensure that we are moving in harmony with the leading trading nations of the developed world. The government's discussion paper might well have been entitled *Prosperity through Cooperation and Competition*.

G.E. Connell is Chair of the Canadian National Round Table on the Environment and the Economy (NRTEE) and immediate past President of the University of Toronto. Reporting directly to the Prime Minister, the National Round Table is an independent forum composed of influential individuals from government, business, science, strategic policy, and the public interest sector.

Canada Changes Oil Policy

The Canadian government has decided to abandon a 12-year-old goal of achieving majority Canadian ownership of the country's oil and gas industry. The policy change is part of an effort to attract foreign capital to the country's depressed petroleum industry. Canadian ownership in the industry is currently about 46%.

In announcing the change, Canadian Energy Minister Jake Epp said that U.S. companies will be allowed to buy small and medium-sized, Canadian-owned petroleum companies with assets of as much as 150 million Canadian dollars (U.S. \$126 million). U.S. bids to buy larger companies will be subject to review by Investment Canada, a government agency. The rules for U.S. companies will be more liberal than for other foreign companies under the three-year-old U.S.-Canada Free Trade Agreement. (*Wall Street Journal*)

U.S., Canada Move Toward Withholding Tax Cuts

The Canadian and U.S. governments are expected to reach an agreement soon that would cut in half the current 10% withholding tax that is imposed on the billions of dollars of intercorporate dividends that flow between the two countries annually. The reciprocal rate cut, urged by many U.S. companies with Canadian subsidiaries, would bring the U.S.-Canada withholding tax rate on such dividends into line with the 5% levy in effect between the U.S. and most other developed countries. The Canadian government shifted its position on the withholding tax issue in February, announcing in its budget that it was prepared to make reciprocal cuts with other countries. The announcement was one of several budget measures to encourage investment in the Canadian economy. (*Wall Street Journal*, 4/28/92)

First Trilateral Meeting of Chambers of Commerce Held

The first Trilateral Conference of Chambers of Commerce of the U. S., Canada, and Mexico was held in Monterrey, hosted by the Monterrey chapter of the Mexican National Chambers of Commerce (Conaco). (*El Financiero International*, April 20, 1992)

U.S., Mexico, Venezuela Reach Tuna Accord

The U.S., Mexico, and Venezuela have reached a preliminary agreement in a dispute over the protection of dolphins in tuna fishing practices. The three countries have agreed to a five-year moratorium, beginning in 1994, on the use of purse nets in tuna fishing in the Pacific. (Purse nets have been blamed for catching and killing tens of thousands of dolphins.) The agreement is expected to reduce opposition to the General Agreement on Trade and Tariffs (GATT) from environmentalists, who had protested a GATT ruling that disallowed a U.S. law barring imports of tuna caught in nets that can also trap dolphins.

Border Scholars Cooperate on Water Policy

The University of Texas at El Paso and the Universidad Autonoma de Ciudad Juarez have signed an agreement establishing a Binational Water Policy Institute at both locations. The institute, funded by a \$135,000 Ford Foundation grant, will work to increase awareness of regional water-related issues. The institute will compile a water resource library and database, coordinate studies, and host binational meetings on water-related policy issues. (*El Paso Times*, 4/19/92)

NEWS ITEMS

Televisa Buys Back Univisión

Mexico's private television monopoly Televisa, together with an investor group that includes Venevisión, Venezuela's leading television company, will buy the Spanish-language network Univisión from Hallmark Cards, Inc., for \$550 million. Univision, the most important Spanish-speaking media corporation in the United States, reported revenues of \$200 million US during 1991. Televisa sold Univisión to Hallmark five years ago under a court order and founded Galavisión, which is the third-ranked Spanish network in the U.S. In second place is the Mexican-owned Telemundo. Televisa has agreed to merge Galavisión and Univisión when the purchase is completed. (*El Financiero International*, 4/20/92)

PUBLICATIONS

"The North American Free Trade Agreement and Its Impact on the Demand for United States Natural Gas," presentation by Robert Krueger of the Railroad Commission of Texas at the Midyear Meeting of the American Bar Association, Dallas, Texas, Feb. 1, 1992. Transcript available from the Coordinating Group on Energy Law, ABA, 1800 M St., NW, Washington, DC 20036 (202) 331-2277.

"International Environmental Negotiation: The Legal Framework," Elliot Richardson, in the *Environmental Law* newsletter; contact Elissa C. Lichtenstein, ABA, 1800 M St., N.W., South 200, Washington, DC 20036 (202) 331-2276.

Energy and the Environment: Intersecting Global Issues, Conference proceedings of January 17-18, 1992, at the University of Arizona College of Law, in the *Arizona Journal of International and Comparative Law*. Contact Brent Hendricks, College of Law, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ (602) 621-9645.

"Canadian Chemical Industry Backs North American Free Trade Pact," Earl V. Anderson in *Chemical and Engineering News*, Jan. 27, 1992, V. 70, No. 4. (An article in the Sept. 9, 1991, issue describes the Mexican chemical industry's point of view.)

Water and Water Rights, V. 5 (Michie Co., Charlottesville, VA, 1991) contains three chapters on North American transboundary water issues by Professor Albert E. Utton, Director of the Transboundary Resource Center, University of New Mexico Law School.

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North American Free Trade: Issues and Recommendations, Gary Clyde Hufbauer and Jeffrey J. Schott, Institute for International Economics, Washington, DC, 1992.

Investment in the North American Free Trade Area: Opportunities and Challenges, Earl H. Fry and Lee H. Radebaugh, editors, Department of Political Science, Brigham Young University, Provo Utah, 1992.

"The [Mexico/U.S.] Border," William Langewiesche, *The Atlantic Monthly*, May & June, 1992. (The May article focuses on immigration, drugs, and law enforcement; the June article is on economic and environmental issues.)

Columbia Journal of World Business, Summer 1991, Vol. XXVI, Number II. (The entire issue is devoted to NAFTA and the Mexican economy.)

U.S.-Mexican Policy Reports and Occasional Papers are a series of publications of The U.S.-Mexican Policy Studies Program (LBJ School of Public Affairs, PO Drawer Y, University Station, Austin, TX 78713-7450). Titles available include: *Challenges in the Binational Management of Water Resources in the Rio Grande/Rio Bravo; U.S.-Mexican Environmental Policy: Who's Polluting Whom?; Mexican Utilization of Health Services on the Texas-Mexico Border; Motor Carrier Regulatory Reform under the Administration of Salinas de Gortari; Planning the Border's Future: An Analysis of the Mexican-*

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