

economically advanced economies can proceed most effectively to carry their full share of the needed efforts to speed the development of the less-developed countries—both through foreign aid programs and through expanding the access of goods of all kinds from the less-developed countries to the world's best markets.

In declaring our readiness to pursue such a policy without delay in the years to come, we shall be reaffirming, in convincing action, to the world's less-developed countries and the millions of people who live there that there is a meaningful place for them in the world economy dominated by advanced nations of the northern hemisphere. By doing so, we shall also be serving our own enlightened self-interest.

I think it should be emphasized that trade policy initiatives are not the sole responsibility of the United States. We should, of course, seek the cooperation of other governments in implementing initiatives in which we have played a leadership role. We should also invite other governments to step forward with their own trade policy initiatives and to seek the cooperation of the United States in exploring new frontiers of freer world trade. We should invite other governments to assert themselves in this way, and promise them the earnest participation of the U.S. Government in exploring ways and means for successful international cooperation in this vital field.

The Federal Government itself should, it seems to me, pledge to the country its earnest efforts to help in the most constructive way to prepare the American economy both to adjust successfully to the higher degrees of international competition that lie just ahead and to capitalize fully on the higher degrees of export opportunity which are the other side of the same coin. The Federal Government should work closely with State and local governments to insure a domestic policy framework within which the American economy may achieve the pace of economic growth and adjustment-to-change that are so necessary to backstop the new efforts that will be made to remove artificial restraints on world commerce.

The private sectors of the American economy should reassess their operations across the board to make sure that everything possible is being done to secure for themselves a durable and highly productive place in an increasingly interdependent world economy—one that is moving resolutely toward freedom of international trade. All State and local governments should also undertake a fresh look at their own policies and practices affecting the prospects for durable competitive strength in this kind of world. The Federal Government should reassess its own policies with this objective in mind, and this includes devising ways in which the Federal Government can be helpful to State and local governments, and to the private sectors of the economy, as they prepare for the part they must play in building a brighter future for the American people, and in insuring the successful participation of their country in helping to build a brighter future for peoples throughout the world.

It seems to me clear that history tells us that world attitudes toward trade restrictions are never static. They are always in a state of flux. We led the world once down the path of trade restrictions via the Smoot-Hawley Tariff Act of 1930. By that action we triggered off a wave of severe trade restrictions which in a short period brought