

## F CONCLUSION

The foregoing discussion has identified a range of issues that affect the degree to which trade policy can contribute effectively to growth and development. Macroeconomic policies, management of infrastructure and infrastructural services, policies affecting the structure and functioning of markets in the domestic economy, and effective governance on the basis of sound institutions are all shown to be crucial elements in determining the contribution of trade policies to economic and social progress. The study does not pretend to define exhaustively the perfect policy setting for progress, but it is clear from our treatment of selected topics that relationships among different areas of economic management are close and complex. It is also clear that the causality underlying these relationships is not uni-directional – sometimes poor policy in one area can frustrate the benefits of open trade, and at other times, precipitate or poorly sequenced trade reform can adversely affect outcomes in related areas of activity. The art of good policy-making requires an understanding of the extent to which economies are “linked-up”, and therefore of the importance of an integrated and coherent policy mix. The study has also examined the question of how far international cooperation is necessary for coherence. Coherence in this broad sense has two important dimensions – the design and content of mutually supportive policies is crucial to the outcome, and so is effective implementation. In both these dimensions, the capacity of different authorities to work effectively together will play a fundamental role.