

[Prime Minister Harper spoke in English as follows.]

Jobs include organizations as diverse as TransCanada, the Canadian Cattlemen's Association, and Beef Canada, the Canola Council, Linamar, Scotiabank, and many others that I know are represented with us here today. And they have tremendous growth prospects in fields such as energy, in education, agri-food, information and communications technologies, banking and financial services, and many, many others, particularly when one looks at the—not just the rapid transformation in this country over the past 20 years, but the very aggressive reforms that are being undertaken by President Peña Nieto's administration.

[Prime Minister Harper spoke in French, and his remarks were translated by an interpreter as follows.]

And having said this, the world, the entire world is not what it used to be in 1994.

[Prime Minister Harper spoke in English as follows.]

Statement on Gap Incorporated's Decision To Increase Employee Wages February 19, 2014

In my State of the Union Address, I asked more businesses to do what they can to raise their employees' wages. Today I applaud Gap Inc. for announcing that they intend to raise wages for their employees beginning this year, a decision that will benefit about 65,000 workers in the U.S. As a chief executive, I've required Federal contractors to pay their employees a wage of at least \$10.10 an hour, and more

Different realities from 20 years ago are realities we must adapt to today. They include obviously the ongoing uncertainty, market uncertainty that remains from the global recession and also from a global economy that is much more competitive from many other regions.

[Prime Minister Harper spoke in French, and his remarks were translated by an interpreter as follows.]

We must work together to be able to abate the barriers and for the benefit of our populations.

[Prime Minister Harper spoke in English as follows.]

And so, as Canadians, Mexicans, and Americans, we need to look for ways to work together and to look forward.

Thank you for being here.

NOTE: The President spoke at 5:03 p.m. in the Salon del Pueblo at the Palacio de Gobierno of the State of Mexico. In his remarks, he referred to his brother-in-law Konrad Ng. President Peña Nieto spoke in Spanish, and his remarks were translated by an interpreter.

States are taking steps to raise their minimum wage as well. But only action from Congress can make a difference nationwide. Right now there is a bill in front of both the House and the Senate that would boost America's minimum wage to \$10.10 an hour and lift wages for more than 16 million workers, all without requiring a single dollar in new taxes or spending. It's time to pass that bill and give America a raise.

Joint Statement by President Obama, President Enrique Peña Nieto of Mexico, and Prime Minister Stephen J. Harper of Canada—21st Century North America: Building the Most Competitive and Dynamic Region in the World February 19, 2014

We, the Leaders of North America, met today in Toluca, Mexico, to recognize the

strength of our relationship and open a new chapter in our partnership. We are determined