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MINISTERIAL MEETINGS BETWEEN CANADA AND THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY, MAY 24-25, 1990, OTTAWA

Meetings at the Ministerial level between Canada and the European Community took place May 24-25 in Ottawa, preceded by the eighth meeting on May 23 of the Joint Cooperation Committee (JCC) set up under the 1976 Framework Agreement between Canada and the European Community.

The Commission Delegation was headed by Vice-President Frans Andriessen, Commissioner responsible for External Relations and Trade Policy, while the Canadian Delegation was led by the Right Honourable Joe Clark, Secretary of State for External Affairs and the Honourable John Crosbie, Minister for International Trade for Canada.

The Prime Minister of Canada, the Right Honourable Brian Mulroney, also received the EC Vice-President.

The meetings imparted a renewed political momentum to the Canada-EC relationship, and permitted a thorough review of a wide range of issues relevant to the relationship.

Both parties underlined the importance of the relationship between the European Community and Canada and agreed that contacts between the Commission and Canada at the political level should be intensified.

Discussions covered a number of subjects, in particular recent developments affecting the political and institutional architecture of Europe, North America/EC transatlantic links and the Community's relations with its European Free Trade Agreement partners and its Central and Eastern European neighbours, Europe of 1992 and the Free Trade Agreement between Canada and the United States, and developments in the Asia/Pacific region.

Canada shares the Commission's view that a reinforced European Community will prove to be a stabilising factor for the future of Europe as a whole.

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