

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTÈRE DES AFFAIRES EXTÉRIEURES

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CANADA SUBMITS INITIAL VIEWS TO THE GATT ON THE UPCOMING MULTILATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS

The Honourable James Kelleher, Minister for International Trade, today released the text of a Canadian Submission to the GATT entitled, "Multilateral Trade Negotiations, Some Initial Canadian Views" (copy attached). Similar submissions have been circulated in Geneva by the European Community, Japan, the USA, the Nordic countries, Switzerland, Australia, New Zealand and a number of developing countries.

"Canada attaches priority to the early convening of broadly based international trade negotiations as a means to open further markets for Canadian exports, to enhance security of access to these markets and to improve international trade rules," Minister Kelleher said. He recalled that the Trade Ministers of Canada, the United States, Japan and the European Communities had addressed at Sault Ste Marie last weekend the importance of a new Round of trade negotiations to avert the serious dangers of increasing protectionist pressures, particularly in the USA.

Mr. Kelleher noted that the content of Canada's submission about the upcoming MTN reflected concerns raised by Canadians during the series of consultations which he had undertaken across the country during the Spring, focussing on the discussion paper, "How to Secure and Enhance Canadian Access to Export Markets".

