

News Release

Communiqué

Minister for
International
Trade



Ministre du
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INTERNATIONAL TRADE MINISTER TO SPEAK AT CONFERENCE
ON EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COOPERATION AND ATTEND
MTN MEETINGS

International Trade Minister John C. Crosbie announced today that he will be attending multilateral economic and trade meetings in Europe and Mexico. At the Economic Cooperation Conference in Bonn April 9-11, the Minister will participate in efforts to achieve greater economic cooperation and trade liberalization in Europe. In Geneva and Mexico, Mr. Crosbie will attend meetings with a view to ensuring the success of the current round of the Multilateral Trade Negotiations (MTN) aimed at achieving greater liberalization of the international trading system.

The Economic Cooperation Conference, which has been in progress since March 19, is part of an ongoing process referred to as the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE). The CSCE groups together all European countries (except Albania) and Canada and the United States. The Bonn Conference marks the first time the 35 member States of the CSCE have focused on trade and economic issues. Canadian officials and private sector representatives have been participating in the Conference since the beginning. Mr. Crosbie will address the Conference at the closing plenary April 10.

"Canada is a partner in Europe, and has been for decades. We intend to make a full and active contribution to the evolution of Europe," Mr. Crosbie said. "I view the Conference as a unique opportunity for the private sector and governments to discuss together policies and programs which can contribute to economic growth."

"Through our participation in the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, through sponsorship of trade missions, through management training programs and in many other ways, the Canadian government and Canadians themselves are helping to create more economic cooperation. This will be to the benefit of the partners on both sides of the Atlantic."

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