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MINISTERIAL MEETINGS IN JAPAN YIELD PROGRESS
FOR URUGUAY ROUND OF MULTILATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS

TOKYO -- International Trade Minister John C. Crosbie today wound up five days of intensive meetings with trade ministers from around the world. These meetings focused on progress in the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations and the steps which need to be taken to bring the Round to a successful conclusion in December 1990.

From November 12-14, in Hakone, about 100 kilometres west of Tokyo, Mr. Crosbie met with U.S. Trade Representative Carla Hills, European Community Vice-Chairman Frans Andriessen, and Japan's Minister of International Trade and Industry, Hikaru Matsunaga.

The four Ministers -- who form the Quadrilateral group -- agreed on the need to intensify the momentum of the negotiations and to have all the detailed negotiating papers tabled by the end of this year.

Mr. Crosbie underlined the urgent need to get on with the detailed, difficult negotiations on agriculture, resource products, and subsidy-countervail issues early in the new year. He welcomed the commitment by the EC that it would soon table its reform proposal on agriculture, and the announcement by the United States that it would soon table its position on subsidies and countervail.

Following the Hakone meeting, Mr. Crosbie joined representatives from 26 developed and developing countries in Tokyo for an informal Trade Ministers' meeting.

"This meeting has made great progress in bringing the developing countries fully into the global push for a successful Round of negotiations, a Round which promises to improve world trade and fuel economic growth," Mr. Crosbie said.

At the meeting, Mr. Crosbie pressed Canadian views in four key areas: agriculture, market access, the rules of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), and the so-called "new areas" for the GATT -- Services, Trade-Related Investment Measures (TRIMs), and Trade-Related Intellectual Property (TRIPs).

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