Minister Carney underlined that the main areas of interest to Canada include the standstill and rollback provisions to help fight protectionism; the negotiations on improved access for a wide variety of Canadian exports including resource products, high technology goods, and certain services; and the search for ways to strengthen the international trading system and make it more effective. In particular, the Uruguay Round offers the best opportunity to attack medium and long-term agriculture problems, to improve disciplines and reduce barriers to agriculture exports.

As already announced, Minister Carney, who is currently in Davos, Switzerland, for a meeting of the World Economic Forum, will proceed to Geneva for discussions on February 2 about the new round with GATT Director General Arthur Dunkel and representatives of a number of the key countries participating in the new round.