

This was another achievement .

As far as tropical products are concerned, Canada contributed to an important package of measures, designed to liberalize trade in products of particular importance to developing countries. This should be implemented early in 1989. Almost all Canadian imports of tropical products, worth some \$1.2 billion a year, should enter this country duty free or at a special preferential rate.

In all the areas I have just mentioned -- market access, dispute settlement, the functioning of the GATT system, services, and tropical products -- we have made undeniable and important progress.

When this meeting began, I expressed the following hope: that I could report today that the GATT is alive and well, that it is adjusting to the reality and complexity of the world trading system, and that we are firmly committed to achieving the objectives we set for ourselves in the Punta del Este Declaration.

Is the GATT alive and well?

Yes, with some aches and pains.

Is it adjusting to changes in the world trading system?

Yes, with the usual challenges associated with adjustment.