

was warmly received by the Canadian Minister. This mission will examine Canada's investment environment and new business opportunities in the light of the Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement.

Minister Tamura welcomed the Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement signed on January 2, 1988, indicating that it should strengthen the Canadian and U.S. economies and assist efforts towards global trade liberalization.

Minister Crosbie provided assurances that the Agreement is fully consistent with Canada's GATT obligations and that Canada intends to provide the GATT Contracting Parties an opportunity to examine the Agreement prior to its implementation.

Both Ministers agreed that while it appears the U.S. Congress, in considering omnibus trade legislation, has chosen to modify or eliminate a number of the more protectionist proposals of the bill, they remain concerned about those trade restricting proposals which remain. They are pleased, however, that the trade bill will provide negotiating authority which will enable the U.S. to continue to seek the lowering of trade distorting measures on a global basis in the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations.