

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTÈRE DES AFFAIRES EXTÉRIEURES

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CANADA-EC TALKS IN OTTAWA

The Department of External Affairs announced today that senior officials of the Canadian Government and of the Commission of the European Communities held a series of meetings in Ottawa on September 27-29 on bilateral and multilateral economic matters.

Meetings took place of the two sub-committees of the Joint Co-operation Committee (JCC) established in 1976 under the Canada/EC Framework Agreement for Commercial and Economic Co-operation. Representatives of a number of provincial governments joined federal officials for these sub-committee meetings.

The third meeting of the General and Preparatory Sub-committee, co-chaired by Mr. D. S. McPhail, Assistant Under-Secretary of Canada's Department of External Affairs, and Mr. J. Loeff, Deputy Director General for the Communities' External Relations, reviewed current co-operation in environmental matters, science and technology, and regional development questions. A number of new co-operative endeavours in the field of science and technology, have just been launched with the visit to Ottawa in September 1978 of a mission led by the Commission's Director General of Research, Science and Education, Mr. Günter Schuster, and the Head of the Euratom Supply Agency, Mr. Jan Baldem Mennicken. This new co-operative programme includes exchanges of information covering the exploration and extraction of natural resources; alternative energy sources; technology forecasting systems; and nuclear waste disposal and related health and safety measures.

The sub-committee agreed to the holding of an experimental workshop on impediments to Canada/EC trade which will take place in Canada in November on competition policy. A comparable workshop for businessmen in the Community will be decided on at a later date.

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