



Minister for  
International Trade

Ministre du  
Commerce extérieur

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# COMMUNIQUÉ

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No. 016

January 29, 1987.

MULTILATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS CONCLUDE ORGANIZATIONAL  
PHASE, BEGIN SUBSTANTIVE NEGOTIATIONS ON BROAD  
RANGE OF SUBJECTS INCLUDING AGRICULTURE

DAVOS -- The Honourable Pat Carney, Minister for International Trade, today expressed great satisfaction at the successful conclusion of the organizational phase of the new round of multilateral trade negotiations. Comprehensive negotiations will now begin on February 9, 1987.

The agreements today clear the way for substantive negotiations on agriculture matters at the multilateral level. They put in place a surveillance mechanism to monitor the commitments on standstill and rollback undertaken in the Ministerial Declaration of the Punta Del Este Conference last September. They also set out negotiating plans and arrangements for the negotiating groups established on all other subjects included in the Uruguay Round, from tariff and non-tariff trade barriers through subsidies, countervail and safeguards, to services and other "new" issues.

"Failure to agree would have seriously set back the process and undermined the credibility of the system", said Minister Carney. "Unanimous adoption of the documents embodying these organizational arrangements - despite the many current world trade difficulties - represents a victory for common sense and multilateral cooperation. It allows the negotiators in Geneva to tackle the broadest and most ambitious set of multilateral negotiations since the GATT was established some forty years ago", she added.

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