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The Senate Standing Committee on Agriculture and Agri-food visited Brussels on January 27 and 28, 1999. Members met with Agricultural Commissioner Fischler, then DG of Health and Consumer Protection Reichenbach, MEP's, and the EU farm organization, COPA. The main topics discussed included CAP reform, upcoming WTO negotiations and the GMO issue.

Member of the European Parliament Erika Mann, member of the Committee of External Economic Relations, visited Canada from June 21 to 27. Her tour provided an opportunity to explore the potential for further development of bilateral relations. During her visit she met with the Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs, Stephane Dion and Mr. Bill Graham, Chair of the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and International Trade.

Canada's Senate Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, under the chairmanship of The Honourable John B. Stewart, met with Commission officials in Brussels on July 2, 1999 where they discussed the implications of the Euro and the implications of recent EU institutional developments. The July tour was a follow-up to the Committee's 1996 visit upon which their report "European Integration: The Implications for Canada" was based.

Canadian Member of Parliament Karen Redman visited Brussels September 23, 1999 as part of a delegation to which proposed to have the International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor facility located in Canada.

George Anderson, Deputy Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs with the Privy Council Office met with Commission officials from February 23 to 26, 1999. Discussions centred on labour and employment issues, such as labour mobility.

Jean McCloskey, Deputy Minister with Natural Resources Canada visited Brussels on May 27 and 28 and explored with Commission officials Canadian concerns with respect to continued EU market access for metal and mineral products in light of certain EU regulatory measures, both actual and prospective.

Jean Fournier, Deputy Solicitor General of Canada, met with drug experts at a special Dublin Group meeting on September 21, 1999. In his capacity as Chair of the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM), Mr. Fournier gave an overview of the Organisation of American States's MEM, an instrument to measure the effectiveness of national anti-drug strategies. Mr. Fournier also met with drug experts from Europol in The Hague, and from the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA), in Lisbon.