

We succeeded in taking a large number of decisions which will be implemented subject to a resolution of the four outstanding problem areas I mentioned earlier.

On dispute settlement--a provisional agreement was achieved in Montreal which would improve the establishment and functioning of GATT panels and reduce the possibilities for delay in the settlement of disputes. It would also make the dispute settlement process more flexible through the expanded use of arbitration, conciliation and mediation procedures.

On the functioning of the GATT--Canada has played a leading role in developing proposals to strengthen and improve the GATT system. These proposals provide for the establishment of a mechanism to carry out periodic reviews of the trade policy and practices of GATT Contracting Parties; greater ministerial involvement to provide stronger political direction to GATT activities; and greater co-operation among the GATT and the other major international economic institutions, the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank.

On trade in services -- we came to Montreal seeking the development of a comprehensive services agreement that, for the first time, would secure and enhance access to world markets for service industries, which are providing more and more of the jobs both in Canada and around the world.

Ministers have now agreed that substantive negotiations should intensify on a multilateral framework to be applied to the broadest range of service industries possible.