The European Economic Community (EC) decided not to deliver on its commitment to conservation at the recent Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO) annual meeting and Canada is continuing to press the EC to adopt NAFO quotas through contacts with appropriate European ministers and through a public information campaign in Europe, Mr. Crosbie said.

Mr. Crosbie pointed out that during a recent visit to Europe, his message to European ministers and European media was that the EC should stop overfishing and abide by NAFO decisions.

Mr. Crosbie outlined details of activities under the European public information campaign for conference delegates and highlighted the appointment of, and important contribution which will be made by Alan Beesley as Ambassador for Marine Conservation.

"Canada will continue to seek to have the international legal framework under the Law of the Sea work through NAFO. If the international legal framework cannot be made to work in spite of our best efforts, then Canada will seek to achieve acceptance by the international community of nations of a more clear and effective set for rules for this purpose," Mr. Crosbie said.

-30-

For further information, please contact:

Media Relations Office External Affairs and International Trade Canada (613) 995-1874