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MINISTER FOR INTERNATIONAL TRADE ANNOUNCES MAKE-UP OF NEW INTERNATIONAL TRADE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

International Trade Minister, John C. Crosbie announced today the make-up of the newly-constituted International Trade Advisory Committee (ITAC).

The purpose of the International Trade Advisory Committee is to provide a two-way flow of information and advice between the government and the private sector on international trade matters. It is a response to the wishes of the private sector to have a broadly based formal structure for regular consultations on an on-going basis with the federal government on trade issues.

Forty-five prominent members of the business, labour, consumer, academic, research and cultural communities have been appointed to the ITAC. They represent all regions of Canada and are experienced and knowledgeable in trade matters. In announcing the new membership of the Committee, Mr. Crosbie said "I expect that the ITAC will now turn its primary focus from the challenges of the Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement to the next round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations."

The Minister emphasized that he had invited the Canadian Labour Congress to discuss the CLC's participation in the International Trade Advisory Committee System. "The CLC's views on the Multilateral Trade Negotiations will be important and I hope that they will accept my invitation", Mr. Crosbie said. The CLC indicated it will be replying to the Minister's invitation in September, after the next meeting of its Executive Council.

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