

arrangements. This week could provide the basis for our discussions next year at APEC V.

The creation of an eminent persons group would help the work of the Regional Trade Liberalization (RTL) group and give it a higher profile. I am interested in hearing comments on this subject by Australia and other colleagues; my own view would be to create a seven- to eight-member group to work closely and intensively with the RTL group in developing ideas and steps that we might wish to consider at APEC V. With the Uruguay Round hopefully behind us by that time, our efforts could be forward-looking and visionary as we seek to build a more prosperous future together.

Thank you.