The OECD brings together in one forum the 24 industrialized democracies of Europe, North America and Asia. These countries account for 16 percent of the world's population and produce two-thirds of its output. The primary purpose of the Organization is to discuss and identify compatible, mutually supporting, constructive approaches to economic and social issues in order to ensure non-inflationary sustainable economic growth with a view to providing rising standards of living for the international community as a whole.

While in Paris, Minister Crosbie will also have bilateral talks with the French Ministers of Foreign Trade and Agriculture, Jean-Marie Rausch and Henri Nallet, respectively.

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