

News Release

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27TH QUADRILATERAL TRADE MINISTERS' MEETING OCTOBER 20-21, 1995

CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT

Sir Leon Brittan, Vice President of the European Commission, issued the following statement as Chairman of the 27th Quadrilateral Trade Ministers' meeting in Yorkshire, United Kingdom, on October 21, 1995. Also attending the meeting were Roy MacLaren, Canada's Minister for International Trade, Mickey Kantor, U.S. Trade Representative, and Ryutaro Hashimoto, Japanese Deputy Prime Minister and Trade Minister.

STATEMENT BY SIR LEON BRITTAN

This was the 27th Ministerial Meeting of the Quadrilateral. We have had detailed and useful informal talks over two days on the full range of current issues confronting us.

We welcome the positive start made by the WTO [World Trade Organization]. We intend to give the WTO our full support as the leader of the open trading system. We will contribute fully to its efficient functioning as an institution.

We intend to work to expand WTO membership as rapidly as possible, on the basis of respect for WTO rules and the achievement of meaningful market access.

Now and in the run-up to the Singapore Ministerial Meeting, we must strengthen the multilateral process and give it fresh momentum. We have agreed on the need to demonstrate more widely the benefits of the multilateral liberalization process and to broaden active support for it.



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