

Minister for  
International  
Trade



Ministre du  
Commerce  
extérieur

No. 114

May 25, 1990.

## CANADA-U.S. TRADE COMMISSION RECEIVES LOBSTER PANEL REPORT

International Trade Minister John C. Crosbie and United States Trade Representative Carla A. Hills announced that a dispute settlement panel established under the Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement (FTA) to consider U.S. federal lobster size requirements today delivered its final report.

The panel found that U.S. rules setting the minimum size of Canadian and U.S. lobsters marketed in U.S. foreign and interstate commerce did not amount to a restriction on importation under the FTA.

The report was delivered to the Canada-United States Trade Commission, whose principal representatives are Ambassador Hills and Minister Crosbie. The Commission has agreed to consider the report over the next 90 days.

During the 90-day period, the Commission will seek to reach a mutually advantageous resolution of issues concerning trade in lobster, based on consultations with interested parties, including the states, provinces, and the two lobster industries.

Minister Crosbie and Ambassador Hills both expressed the hope that over the next few months Canada and the U.S. will be able to solve remaining differences in a way that will be satisfactory to both sides.

The FTA sets aside at least 30 days for the Commission to review panel reports. The Commission agreed to a 90-day consultation period in light of the complicated nature of the issues to be resolved.

The mandate of the Canada-U.S. Trade Commission is to supervise the implementation of the FTA, resolve disputes, and ensure the evolution of the Agreement in the mutual interest of both countries.

-30-

For further information, media representatives should contact:

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