

The meetings also closely followed a gathering of Asia-Pacific Economic Co-operation (APEC) ministers responsible for the MTN hosted by Mr. Crosbie in Vancouver in September, and his talks in Geneva earlier this month with his colleagues in Europe, the U.S. and Latin American countries.

"We are aware of the stakes in these negotiations," said Mr. Crosbie. "But the market access offers made by Korea and Japan fall short of the expectations of major trading partners. We must ensure that Canada and all GATT members enjoy enhanced and secure access to these rapidly growing and increasingly important countries in the world trading system."

The Uruguay Round is seeking to liberalize global trade rules in 15 sectors among its 100 members. Trade in those sectors is valued at \$1.5 trillion.

- 30 -

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