

exempts programs to assist research and development, as well as those to help firms comply with higher environmental standards.

- Patents on virtually all inventions, products or processes in all fields of technology will be protected for 20 years.
- Makers of software, integrated circuits, and so on, will benefit from stronger action against the pirating of copyright material and trademark infringement.
- Canadians will be protected from unauthorized reproductions of their works.
- A strengthened dispute-settlement system will ensure that trade disputes are resolved on the basis of the law rather than political or economic power.
- The Multilateral Trade Organization (MTO), a concept that was developed by Canada and the Commission of the European Communities, will ensure that all participants accept all the same obligations, and will facilitate the administration and enforcement of the rules.

Mr. MacLaren added that there remain some bilateral issues to be resolved in agricultural trade, both with the United States and the European Union, and that these are being addressed by Agriculture Minister Ralph Goodale.

Over the next three months, the Final Act, consisting of the legal text of the agreements and the schedules of concessions, will be finalized. In mid-April 1994, in Morocco, ministers will sign the Final Act, which will subsequently be submitted to national governments for formal approval. It is proposed that the MTO and its constituent agreements take effect on July 1, 1995.

The Parliament of Canada will be asked to approve legislation to implement the Uruguay Round agreement in its entirety, as required by the "single undertaking" agreed to by all participants in the Round.

Provincial governments may have to modify certain laws and regulations in areas that are under their jurisdiction, particularly in the services sector. In the negotiations, Canada made no commitments in areas requiring changes to provincial legislation without first gaining the approval of the provinces.

- 30 -

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