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QUADRILATERAL TRADE MINISTERS' MEETING

A meeting of Trade Ministers of Canada, the EC, Japan and the USA was held in Ottawa on 26 and 27 September. The meeting was chaired by the Honourable Gerald Regan, Minister of State for International Trade of Canada, and was attended by Ambassador William E. Brock, United States Trade Representative, Mr. Wilhelm Haferkamp, Vice-President and Commissioner for External Relations of the Commission of the European Community, and Mr. Sosuke Uno, Minister of International Trade and Industry, of Japan.

The Ottawa meeting provided an opportunity for Ministers to review the general trade situation. They specifically discussed ways of maintaining and strengthening the international trading system and of achieving early and meaningful progress to that end. Prospects and possibilities for dismantling trade barriers and for making further progress in trade liberalization were discussed. This included ways of further strengthening the various codes negotiated in the Tokyo Round and means of providing for the transparency of safeguard actions not subject to the notification requirements of the GATT.

In the margin, the meeting provided a useful opportunity for Ministers to meet together to discuss trade matters between individual countries.

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