



# PRESS RELEASE

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DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
OTTAWA - CANADA

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THURSDAY, JUNE 17, 1954.

The Department of External Affairs announced today that, following the coming into force on June 7 of the Canada-Japan Agreement on Commerce, the Executive Secretary of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade has been notified that Canada now accepts the GATT Declaration concerning the application of the General Agreement to commercial relations between the Contracting Parties and Japan. This Declaration was opened for acceptance during the Eighth Session of the Contracting Parties to the GATT in October 1953, as part of the arrangements which were adopted for Japan to participate in the General Agreement on a provisional basis pending tariff negotiations. The Executive Secretary of the GATT was informed that Canada's acceptance of the Declaration was subject to the provisions of the Agreement on Commerce between Canada and Japan. This reflected the understanding between Canada and Japan recorded in the official minute appended to the Agreement on Commerce that this Agreement would continue to be applicable in the event that the GATT is applied between Canada and Japan. Commercial relations between Canada and Japan therefore are now governed by the GATT and the Canada-Japan Agreement on Commerce.