

The proposed organization would feature an effective and more unified dispute settlement procedure for all multilateral trade agreements and stronger links with other international economic and financial institutions. Mr. Crosbie tabled a discussion paper on dispute settlement as part of the strategy for institutional reform.

In Mexico there was consensus to proceed on a Canadian proposal to intensify the negotiations on market access (tariffs and non-tariff barriers). Ministers agreed to Mr. Crosbie's proposal that senior market access negotiators engage in an intensive two-week negotiating session in Geneva in early June.

As part of the intensified pace of negotiations to improve market access, Canada has initiated bilateral meetings with key negotiating partners in the Round. The first such meeting took place in Mexico City last week, during a Ministerial trade mission. Mr. Crosbie has also dispatched a team of senior Canadian trade officials to Asia-Pacific countries to conduct similar negotiations.

"Without substantial progress in traditional GATT areas such as market access, and in the new areas, such as agriculture and services, and without a strong system to regulate world trade, we will inhibit the economic growth and prosperity that trade creates," Mr. Crosbie said.

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