

Three committees were established for this purpose - on industry, agriculture and developing countries.

As a first step, it was agreed that member governments submit lists of non-tariff barriers that impede their exports. I am seeking the best possible advice from the Canadian business community in preparing our submissions. To that end, I have written to exporters and trade associations asking their views, and I am counting heavily on the advice and guidance of this Council with respect to proposals for the future.

Immediately after the GATT meeting, I represented the Government at the Ministerial Council of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) in Paris.

The paramount issue to which the ministers addressed themselves was the economic situation of member countries -- specifically their balance-of-payments situation.

We also agreed to the broad lines of a report on the question of preferences for developing countries as a common basis for member countries of the Organization at the second UNCTAD.

Before returning home, I also made official visits to the capitals of Sweden, Norway, Denmark and Finland, where I had useful discussions on furthering our mutual trade with ministers of the respective governments.

While en route to the second UNCTAD in Delhi, I had a very useful meeting in Rome with ministers of the Italian Government. The Minister of Trade and I issued a joint communiqué, a copy of which is available. Subsequently, in Tehran, I had discussions with the Shah, the Prime Minister and several ministers of the Iranian Government. The relations between our two countries are conducive to very exciting possibilities for Canadian exports and investment in Iran. We shall be discussing this in more detail later this morning.

UNCTAD

I consider the UNCTAD meetings which are still in progress at the official level to be of utmost importance. In my address to the Assembly, among other things, I said: "In this shrinking world, we cannot afford to isolate the good fortune of the few from the misfortune of the many".

We in the industrialized countries must recognize the urgent need to step up our efforts both in aid and trade with the developing world.

I reviewed the steady and sizeable growth in Canada's aid programme and re-affirmed our intention to continue this development of increased aid despite our position as a net importer of capital. I reminded the other nations that, as regards manufacturing, we are still in the early stages of growth and development and that this must be borne in mind in working out programmes for access, particularly on a preferential basis.