



C O M M U N I Q U É

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GATT MID-TERM REVIEW MEETING

GENEVA --- The Minister for International Trade, the Honourable Pat Carney, announced that at an informal meeting of trade ministers in Lausanne, Switzerland, November 29, 1987, Canada offered to host a mid-term review of developments in the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations (MTN). The Uruguay Round was launched in 1986 and is to conclude in 1990. At the mid-term review, trade ministers will review progress in the MTN and take decisions on early results in certain areas of the negotiations. Miss Carney announced that the ministers meeting in Lausanne reached a consensus on the need for a mid-term review probably in late 1988, and that the Canadian offer to host the meeting had been warmly received. The mid-term review, to be attended by representatives of the 95 GATT Contracting Parties and other participants in the MTN, will likely attract up to 2,000 people.

In Lausanne, Miss Carney emphasized that the participation of developing countries was essential to the successful conclusion of the MTN. In order to assist these countries, Canada will be taking initiatives which could take the form of direct technical assistance as well as support through international organizations such as the GATT.

Miss Carney announced that in view of the GATT's current precarious financial situation because of unpaid contributions, Canada is paying its 1988 contribution (SF 2,870,280) early.

On Monday, November 30, Miss Carney met with the Japanese Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Uno Sosuke, for a discussion of bilateral issues as well as more general matters in the Uruguay Round.

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