

The Committee took note of the assurances of the Canadian Government that the Canadian temporary import surcharges would be eliminated as quickly as Canada's balance-of-payments position permits.

The Committee examined recent developments in international economic relations. The Committee took special note of the joint initiative taken by the Prime Minister of Canada and the President of the United States in calling for a meeting of ministers to set in train a broad programme for the liberalization and expansion of trade. The Committee welcomed the fact that this meeting would take place under the auspices of GATT in the early part of 1963. The Committee stressed the importance of achieving the broadest participation in the tariff negotiations which would follow the meeting of ministers and emphasized that such negotiations must be based upon the unconditional most-favoured-nation principle. The Committee recognized the need to make progress in all sectors of trade.

The ministers reviewed the efforts being made by Canada and Japan to assist economic progress in the developing countries and noted that both countries were co-operating in this field in various international bodies. They recognized that the economic progress of the developing countries required not only financial assistance but also expanding export opportunities for their products. The Committee noted that this would be a major objective of the forthcoming UN conference on trade and development. They agreed that Canada and Japan should work closely together in the preparatory Committee in order to ensure the achievement of meaningful and constructive results.

The Canadian delegation expressed the strong support of the Canadian Government for increased participation by Japan in the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and full Japanese membership therein.

The Committee discussed a number of fisheries matters. There was an exchange of information and views on the present conditions of the respective domestic fishing industries as well as on the international aspect of fisheries. The importance of fisheries for the economies of the two countries and the significance of international co-operation for the sound promotion of fisheries were emphasized.

It was agreed that negotiations be initiated between the two Governments for the conclusion of an agreement for the avoidance of double taxation in view of the need for further strengthening of economic relations between the two countries.

The ministers of the two countries were unanimously agreed that the Canada-Japan Ministerial Committee which was established by Prime Minister Ikeda and Prime Minister Diefenbaker in June 1961 was of great value for the development of better mutual understanding between the two countries. Accordingly this highly successful first meeting was of historic importance.

The Committee accepted the invitation of the Canadian Government to hold its next meeting in Ottawa.