

Ares save 653661

Dear Mr Fast,

First of all I would like to congratulate you on your appointment as Canadian Minister for International Trade and I hope that there will soon be an opportunity to meet in person. Also I would like to thank you for your letter of May 27.

I am very glad to hear your commitment to job creation, economic growth and development through international trade. I share this commitment and hope we will be able to carry forward in particular two trade priorities for both Canada and the EU, the conclusion of the Doha Development Round and the conclusion of the Canada-EU negotiations on a Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA).

Out of Scope

As regards the CETA negotiation I am happy to see that this process has progressed very well so far. With ambition we should be able to set a new standard for trade agreements between developed countries to the benefit of the EU and the Canada economies. We should make all efforts to move this negotiation towards conclusion in the near future.

I wish you all the best in your new capacity.

Yours sincerely,

Karel De Gucht

Mr Ed Fast
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