

has agreed to a "product-specific safeguard" which will strengthen our ability to fight sudden import surges. A good accession protocol will be good for America. The Clinton-Jiang meeting in Auckland infused our bilateral trade talks with new life.

The U.S. negotiators thus far have done an excellent job. They have already offered American farmers a ray of hope during a very difficult year. And we are close to an accession that will make trade with China fundamentally more fair for our country. It will then be up to this Senate, and to our colleagues, to take the final step by making the normal trade relations we now offer to China permanent.

On the multilateral end, the Auckland meetings were an opportunity for APEC members to show a united front for progress to the other members of the WTO. There was some forward movement on this in Auckland, but not as much as we needed. The key issue is how much we should achieve in the next WTO trade round. The next round will be launched two months from now, when the United States hosts the Seattle WTO Ministerial.

In this regard, last week I introduced Senate Concurrent Resolution 55. It contained the elements of what I believe we should achieve in the next round. At their Auckland meeting, APEC trade ministers endorsed a number of these elements. Procedurally, they said that the talks should be completed in three years, rather than the seven years it took for the Uruguay Round. They said that WTO members should treat the talks as one single package, not a collection of separate topics where members can opt out of the tough issues. They mentioned the need to address tariffs on manufactured products.

All that was useful. But the APEC ministers did not go far enough. President Clinton and the leaders of the other APEC members set out ambitious goals for them five years ago. To achieve those goals, the trade ministers must set specific targets. In agriculture, for example, the Auckland meeting supported abolishing all export subsidies. That is a specific, ambitious target. We need the same specificity on other agricultural trade issues which, such as tariffs, trade-distorting domestic subsidies, and government trading companies. It would have been very helpful to have APEC trade ministers support progress in these areas.

The trade ministers should have made a much stronger statement on trade in services. This is not only an important component of developed economies. Services of all sectors—financial, communications, legal, engineering—are vital to developing nations as well.

I wish the APEC trade ministers had been more concrete and specific in

their treatment of the WTO talks. I hope this does not foreshadow three years of negotiations which yield weak results.

Finally, I would like to endorse a point that the heads of the APEC governments made in their summit communiqué. They noted that great disparities in wealth threaten social stability. That is true both within a country and between nations. We must ensure that the benefits of globalization are widely shared. We must show that the global trading system improves the quality of life for WTO members.

We need to emphasize the human dimension of globalization. That human includes issues such as labor and the environment, which APEC ministers and leaders largely ignored at Auckland. I hope that future meetings of APEC summits focus on these issues, and that APEC becomes a positive force for their full consideration in the WTO.

VOTE ANNOUNCEMENT CORRECTION

Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, on rollcall vote #8, if I had been present, I would have voted nay. My position was announced as aye.

I ask unanimous consent that the permanent RECORD be corrected to reflect how I would have voted, if I had been present.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Ms. MIKULSKI. Thank you, Mr. President.

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Williams, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

At 9:44 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Berry, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

H.R. 457. An act to amend title 5, United States Code, to increase the amount of leave time available to a Federal employee in any year in connection with serving as an organ donor, and for other purposes.

The enrolled bill was signed subsequently by the President pro tempore (Mr. THURMOND).

At 1:52 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 658. An act to establish the Thomas Cole National Historic Site in the State of New York as an affiliated area of the National Park System.

H.R. 898. An act designating certain land in the San Isabel National Forest in the State of Colorado as the "Spanish Peaks Wilderness".

H.R. 940. An act to establish the Lackawanna Heritage Valley American Heritage Area.

H.R. 1619. An act to amend the Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers Valley National Heritage Corridor Act of 1994 to expand the boundaries of the Corridor.

H.R. 1651. An act to amend the Fisherman's Protective Act of 1967 to extend the period during which reimbursement may be provided to owners of United States fishing vessels for costs incurred when such a vessel is seized and detained by a foreign country.

H.R. 2112. An act to amend title 28, United States Code, to allow a judge to whom a case is transferred to retain jurisdiction over certain multidistrict litigation cases for trial, and to provide for Federal jurisdiction of certain multiparty, multiforum civil actions.

H.R. 2368. An act to assist in the resettlement and relocation of the people of Bikini Atoll by amending the terms of the trust fund established during the United States administration of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands.

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 184. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress regarding the importance of "family friendly" programming on television.

The message further announced that the House has passed the following Senate bill, without amendment:

S. 380. An act to reauthorize the Congressional Award Act.

The message also announced that the House disagrees to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 1906) making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000, and for other purposes, and agrees to the conference asked by the Senate on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses, thereon; and appoints Mr. SKEEN, Mr. WALSH, Mr. DICKEY, Mr. KINGSTON, Mr. NETHERCUTT, Mr. BONILLA, Mr. LATHAM, Mrs. EMERSON, Mr. YOUNG of Florida, Ms. KAPTUR, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. FARR of California, Mr. BOYD, and Mr. OBEY, as the managers of the conference on the part of the House.

The message further announced that the House disagrees to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 2561) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000, and for other