PRESS RELEASE



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The Minister of Trade and Commerce, the Honourable Mitchell Sharp, will head the Canadian Delegation to the Annual Ministerial Council of the OECD. He will be accompanied by officials from Departments of Trade and Commerce, Finance, and External Affairs. The meeting, to be held at OECD headquarters in Paris December 2 and 3, will be attended by representatives from all 21 member countries in Western Europe, North America and Japan. Canada was a founding member of the OECD when it was established in December 1960 with the aim of achieving the highest sustainable economic growth and employment consistent with financial stability and of contributing to sound economic development in member and non-member countries and to the expansion of world trade. The forthcoming meeting is expected to highlight Jiscussions of the economic growth of member countries and trade and development prospects in less-developed countries. There will also be a review of the Organization's work during the year, particularly in the manpower and social affairs, agriculture and scientific research committees.

Mr. Sharp plans to take the opportunity of his visit to Paris in order to have talks with the Minister of Finance and the Minister of Agriculture of the Government of France. These discussions on topics of mutual interest are in furtherance of a decision taken during the Prime Minister's visit to Paris in January to have more frequent consultation between Canadian and French ministers.