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CANADIANS NAMED TO ROSTER FOR WTO DISPUTE SETTLEMENT PANELS

The Honourable Roy MacLaren, Minister for International Trade, today announced that 12 Canadians have been named to the roster of panelists for the new, strengthened dispute settlement system under the World Trade Organization (WTO).

The Canadian nominees to the roster - called the Indicative List of Panelists - have been approved by member countries of the WTO Dispute Settlement Body.

"As a Canadian, I'm proud that these prominent Canadian trade experts will have an opportunity to serve on WTO panels," Mr. MacLaren said. "I have great confidence in the WTO dispute settlement process. The new WTO Dispute Settlement Body will strengthen the global trading system by helping to create a fairer and more predictable and transparent environment in which trading nations can operate.

"An effective multilateral dispute settlement process is especially important to smaller, trade-dependent countries such as Canada."

The Canadian appointees include: Yvan Bernier, professor of law, Sainte Foy, Quebec; Peter Clark, trade consultant, Ottawa, Ontario; Armand De Mestral, professor of law, Montreal, Quebec; Percy T. Eastham, trade consultant, Ottawa, Ontario; Randolph Gherson, trade and foreign policy adviser, Ottawa, Ontario; Anthony L. Halliday, trade consultant, Ottawa, Ontario; W. Roy Hines, trade consultant, Ottawa, Ontario; Donald McRae, professor of law, Ottawa, Ontario; Sylvia Ostry, Chair, Centre For International Studies, Toronto, Ontario; Christopher Thomas, lawyer, Vancouver, British Columbia; Jack H. Warren, Q.C., trade policy adviser, Chelsea, Quebec; and Gilbert R. Winham, professor of government and political science, Halifax, Nova Scotia.

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A brief backgrounder on the WTO dispute settlement process is attached.

For further information, media representatives may contact:

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