



# communiqué

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## EXPORT TRADE DEVELOPMENT BOARD ANNUAL REPORT

OTTAWA -- The Minister of State for International Trade, the Honourable Gerald Regan, announced today that he has received the first Annual Report of the Export Trade Development Board from the Board's Chairman, Roger E. Hatch, President of Canpotex Limited. The Minister commented on the high calibre of advice the government receives from the Board and on the considerable number of issues taken up by the Board during its first year of operation including the National Trading Corporation proposal; the competitiveness of Canada's export financing, aid priorities; the launching of an export awards program; and the taxation of Canadians working abroad.

The Export Trade Development Board was established in August 1981 to advise the federal government on issues related to the formulation and implementation of export trade policies and programs. It is comprised of 21 prominent Canadians chosen from business, labour and academia representing a cross-section of Canadian regions and industries and eight senior public sector members. Among the Board's primary concerns are issues related to improved export performance and the focussing of the nation's export efforts toward target markets for special concentration.

"Given the importance of exports to the Canadian economy, the advice of the Board is extremely valuable in the formulation of government trade development policy" said Mr. Regan, who has promised his full personal support to the Board's future activities.

Mr. Regan said that he is looking forward to attending the December 1 meeting of the Board in Halifax and to receiving the Board's views and recommendations particularly with respect to its major role as a forum for private sector participation in export trade policies and programs.

- 30 -

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