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Senator Argue noted that the Council has played an important role in facilitating trade in wheat and encouraging international co-operation in grain matters.

Mr. Whelan commended the IWC for providing an international forum for the discussion of grain matters including world food problems and the Council's role in helping to meet the food needs of developing nations.

"As president of the World Food Council, it reassures me in my task that so many of the goals of the IWC complement the objectives of the WFC. The food aid committee of the IWC assesses the food situation in developing countries and the manner in which members are fulfilling their obligations under the Food Aid Convention."

The first International Wheat Agreement was negotiated in 1933. An original governing body, called the Wheat Advisory Committee, was replaced by the IWC in 1942. The Council meets twice a year, generally at its headquarters in London, England.

Delegates from the 60 IWC member nations and representatives from many non-member countries will be attending the 100th session. In addition, invited representatives from grain producer groups, and international trade organizations are expected to attend the Centennial Forum.

Mr. Regan said it is appropriate that Canada, as a major grain exporter, should host this anniversary session and forum.

"As an exporting nation, we are very aware of the vital role of international trade and for Canada the trade in grains is particularly important".

The Ministers noted that it is through international meetings of this type that nations can improve international co-operation in grain matters and as a consequence the well being of millions of grain farmers and consumers in all parts of the world.

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