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**CCBX** 

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SUJET

System for the Acquisition of Foreign Technology

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ENCLOSURES ANNEXES

DISTRIBUTION

The purpose of this memorandum is to bring you up to date on the activities of the Department's Working Group on the Technology Inflow Study, since its commencement on April 16, 1984, to summarize the issues involved and to indicate to you where we appear to be heading.

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## BACKGROUND POINTS

- Canada's science and technology policy recognizes as one of its primary objectives the strengthening of the Canadian economy through the development of new technologies for producing goods and services and the widespread adoption of new and existing technologies. Recent government reorganizations have placed squarely on our Department the responsibility for carrying out the external relations to enhance domestic economic development; the systematic and effective acquisition of foreign technology is one aspect of this broad area.
- The Cabinet Decision 388-82RD(C) of July 28, 1982 encouraged the more vigorous use of carefully chosen international collaboration in science and technology (S&T) as a means of enhancing the achievement of Canada's economic development goals and established the Catalytic Seed Fund to support the process of identifying and initiating collaborative international S&T activities undertaken primarily to meet Canadian economic development needs. After a year of operation the Fund is proving to be a useful tool and to-date has been used primarily to underwrite the costs of bringing together Canadian experts from industry, the universities, and provincial and federal governments, as well as the costs of sending exploratory missions by small groups of experts in selected technical areas to selected target countries (e.g. a biotechnology mission to Japan).