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MACLAREN RELEASES 1995 REGISTER OF U.S. BARRIERS TO TRADE

The Honourable Roy MacLaren, Minister for International Trade, today released the 1995 Register of United States Barriers to Trade.

The publication is an illustrative list of U.S. barriers to the free flow of goods, services and investment. Examples include U.S. subsidy practices, unilateral trade remedy practices, government procurement and domestic preference laws, customs and administrative procedures, and technical and regulatory practices.

"Although trade barriers affect a relatively small portion of the high volume of trade between Canada and the U.S., the barriers that remain result in missed trade opportunities," said Mr. MacLaren. "The Government is concerned about the range of U.S. trade measures at the federal, state, and local levels. A number of important issues listed in this report, relating to U.S. countervail and anti-dumping practices, are of particular concern to the Government. These issues highlight the need to pursue our negotiations on trade remedies under the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA)."

The Register of United States Barriers to Trade also summarizes Canadian responses to specific U.S. trade measures, including the use of dispute settlement panels. "We shall continue to work to eliminate or reduce U.S. barriers to trade through negotiations and through asserting our rights under the dispute settlement procedures of the NAFTA and the World Trade Organization," the Minister said.

Canada's release of the Register coincides with the publication by the U.S. Administration of the annual National Trade Estimate Report on Foreign Trade Barriers, which describes trade barriers maintained by U.S. trading partners, including Canada.

The Register of United States Barriers to Trade may be obtained by contacting the Department of Foreign Affairs and International