



communiqué

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EXPANSION OF GATT AGREEMENT ON TRADE IN CIVIL AIRCRAFT

The Honourable Gerald Regan, Minister of State (International Trade), announced today that significant progress has been made in discussions in Geneva to expand the coverage of the GATT Agreement on Trade in Civil Aircraft.

The Aircraft Agreement, which was negotiated in the Tokyo Round of multilateral trade negotiations, eliminates import duties charged by its signatories on civil aircraft and aircraft parts. The Agreement has resulted in improved access for Canadian exporters of these products to world markets. Signatories to the Agreement include Canada, the United States, Japan, the member states of the European Economic Community as well as a number of other countries.

Mr. Regan indicated that he had been advised by the Canadian delegation in Geneva that "ad referendum agreement" had been reached to expand the coverage of the Agreement to include an additional 32 categories of products for use in civil aircraft. Mr. Regan stated that this development was an encouraging signal on the part of those countries participating in the discussions of their determination to liberalize further access to world markets. He indicated that the Canadian Government would be giving careful consideration to these proposals as soon as possible.

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