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SIXTH MEETING OF THE JOINT CANADA-MEXICO COMMITTEE

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Right Honourable Joe Clark, announced today that the Sixth Meeting of the Joint Canada-Mexico Committee was held in Mexico City 3-4 March 1986 under his co-chairmanship and that of the Mexican Secretary of External Relations, Bernardo Sepulveda Amor.

Both Ministers stressed the importance of the Joint Committee as a mechanism which has been highly successful in strengthening bilateral relations and in identifying new areas for cooperation. During the two days of discussions, the Delegations reviewed the political and economic aspects of the bilateral relationship with particular focus on cooperation in the areas of trade, industry, energy and agriculture.

In addition to the formal meetings of the Joint Committee, Mr. Clark also met with President de La Madrid Hurtado and Secretary of Finance Silva Herzog.

With respect to bilateral matters, the Delegations agreed on the need to promote tourism in both directions and to review negotiations for a possible Air Agreement with this objective in mind. Mexico also confirmed its participation in Expo 86 and in Food Pacific 86. Difficulties related to the administration of the bilateral program of seasonal agricultural workers were considered and resolved. A memorandum of understanding on cooperation in forestry matters was signed.

With respect to trade and economic relations, the Delegation considered the recommendations of the Bilateral Trade and Industrial Cooperation Committee which met in Mexico City in November 1985 and noted the progress achieved to date. In this regard, it was agreed that a number of the recommendations would receive priority attention.