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Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade
Foreign Policy Communications Division (BCF)

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FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND INTERNATIONAL TRADE:
PRESS RELEASES:

New Agreements Between Canada and the Republic of Kazakhstan

March 29, 1995, no. 61

A Trade Agreement and a Declaration of Principles between Canada and the Republic of Kazakhstan were signed, in the presence of Prime Minister Jean Chrétien and visiting Kazakhstan Prime Minister Akezhan M. Kazhegeldin. The Declaration of Principles, which describes the basis on which the two countries will conduct and develop their relations, was signed by Secretary of State (Asia-Pacific) Raymond Chan and Kazakh Foreign Affairs Minister Kasymzhomart K. Tokaev. The Trade Agreement, which was signed by Mr. Chan and Kazakh Economy Minister Altai L. Tleuberdin, will facilitate trade between the two countries and provide the Canadian business community with additional certainty regarding its interests and activities in Kazakhstan. "This agreement, along with the declaration, clearly demonstrates the growing economic and political relationship between our two countries," said Mr. Chan. A \$1.1-million technical assistance package for Kazakhstan was also announced by Foreign Affairs Minister André Ouellet.

Ouellet to Participate in Special Ministerial Conference on
la Francophonie in Paris

March 28, 1995, no. 60

Foreign Affairs Minister André Ouellet announced that he will lead the Canadian delegation to a special ministerial conference of la Francophonie in Paris on March 30. The conference is being convened to enable representatives of member countries to consider fundamental questions pertaining to the future of la Francophonie, including future directions for Francophone co-operation, operation of la Francophonie institutions (in particular the relationship between the Summits and the Agency for Cultural and Technical Co-operation), and expansion of la Francophonie to other countries seeking membership.

Secretary of State Stewart to Visit Ghana

March 27, 1995, no. 59

Foreign Affairs Minister André Ouellet announced that Secretary of State (Latin America and Africa) Christine Stewart is visiting Ghana, March 26-30. This is the first Ministerial visit to that country since May 1993. While in Ghana, Mrs. Stewart will meet with President Jerry Rawlings and senior ministers and officials, including those responsible for programs and projects supported by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA). "I am delighted to be able to take a first-hand look at these projects. They reflect an important part of our CIDA programming in Africa," said Mrs. Stewart.

MacLaren Awards the Minister for International Trade
Challenge Cup to University of Ottawa MBA Students

March 23, 1995, no. 58

A team of six graduate business students from the University of Ottawa was awarded today the annual "Minister for International Trade Challenge Cup" by the Honourable Roy MacLaren. The cup is presented to the top Canadian team participating in the annual Dalhousie University International Business Case Competition. Members of the winning Canadian team are Claudia Abourizk, Christian Bilodeau, Fabrice Doisneau, Cameron Lawson, Adam Rubin and Christine Scott. Dr. Jane Fulton is the Faculty Advisor to the team. "I congratulate these students for having successfully demonstrated the important contribution they can and will make to meeting Canada's global trade challenges," Mr. MacLaren said. "International business education is a critical component of our future international competitiveness. As more students undertake studies and skills development in this area, Canada as a whole will be better equipped to take on challenges in the global marketplace."

STATEMENTS

Last week the international community finally agreed on a new Director-General for the World Trade Organization [WTO] — three months after the deadline had passed and almost a year after the WTO's triumphant launch in Marrakech. This inauspicious beginning reflects more than a flawed process to select heads of multilateral institutions — though this is surely a subject worthy of concern. The inability of North America, Europe and Asia to reach agreement on this issue was in many ways symbolic of a more fundamental challenge facing the world economy: how to ensure that the increasingly powerful forces of regionalism — especially among the so-called triad economies — remain building blocks of the broader multilateral order.... For Canada, regionalism is not an end in itself; rather, we are encouraging the expansion