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CANADA-EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES
JOINT COOPERATION COMMITTEE MEETING,
BRUSSELS, JANUARY 27, 1983

The Honourable Allan J. MacEachen, Deputy Prime Minister and Secretary of State for External Affairs and Wilhelm Haferkamp, Vice-President of the Commission of the European Communities, today co-chaired the Fifth Meeting of the Canada-EC Joint Cooperation Committee.

It is almost seven years since the Joint Cooperation Committee was set up under the Framework Agreement on Commercial and Economic Cooperation. Mr. MacEachen, as Secretary of State for External Affairs in 1976, signed the Framework Agreement for Canada. Lord Soames and the then President of the Council of Ministers, the Netherlands Foreign Minister, Mr. van der Stoep, signed for the European Community. The Joint Cooperation Committee was designed to promote and keep under review the various commercial and economic cooperation activities envisaged between Canada and the EC. It meets at the Ministerial level, alternatively in Ottawa and Brussels. These cooperation activities, when viewed against the background of world economic recession and stagnation in international trade, offer an important means of coordinating economic development and enhancing bilateral exchanges. The Deputy Prime Minister and the Vice-President agreed that the Framework Agreement, as well as the Joint Cooperation Committee and its sub-committees, which have been created to implement it, constitute an important vehicle for the intensification of Canada-EC cooperation and trade.