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VISIT BY THE MINISTER FOR INTERNATIONAL TRADE TO KOREA AND JAPAN

The Honourable James F. Kelleher, Minister for International Trade, will make an official visit to Korea and Japan between February 3-11, 1985. The Minister confirmed today that he was giving the Pacific priority attention to his efforts to increase Canadian exports.

The Minister stated: "Rapid economic growth in the Pacific region has created significant markets for Canadian exports. There is potential for us to do much more. We must exploit that potential and to that end I will be visiting Korea and Japan in February for trade talks and expect to make other visits to the area later in the spring".

In discussing his forthcoming visit, Mr. Kelleher said that the region, with its dynamic economic growth, provides significant market opportunities for increased Canadian exports of resource products, manufactured goods and services.

Both Japan and Korea were selected for the Minister's first Asian tour because of their particular significance at Canadian export markets. In 1984 two-way trade with Japan totalled an estimated \$11.3 billion establishing Japan as Canada's second largest trading partner. Two-way trade with the Republic of Korea during the same period totalled an estimated \$1.8 billion making it one of Canada's significant Pacific trading partners.