

Themes of the Tenth APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting

Leaders from 21 Pacific Rim economies will meet in Los Cabos, Mexico, Oct. 26–27, 2002, for the tenth Asia–Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Economic Leaders' Meeting. The stability and growth of the Asia–Pacific region is of vital importance to the world economy and to Canada. Leaders will gather to exchange views on the economic challenges facing the region and to provide direction to APEC's wide-ranging activities in support of trade and investment liberalization and sustainable long-term growth and prosperity.

APEC provides its members with a valuable forum for managing the diverse challenges presented by globalization and the new forms of international trade. As host, Mexico has chosen the theme Expanding the Benefits of Co-operation for Economic Growth and Development — Implementing the Vision. Under this broad theme, three sub-themes have been identified:

- Promoting the implementation of appropriate trade, investment and financial policies that foster growth and take advantage of the new economy.
- Continuing to build capacities so as to reap the benefits of development, while placing special emphasis on promoting small, medium and micro enterprises.
- Strengthening APEC as a relevant forum by fostering greater participation by youth and women; by stepping up efforts in communicating the benefits of globalization; and by continuing to improve the functioning of APEC.

In advance of the leaders' meeting, APEC ministers responsible for trade and foreign affairs will meet Oct. 23–24, also in Los Cabos.