"A dynamic multilateral trading system is key to achieving the domestic economic priorities of all WTO members," Mr. MacLaren said. "Canada championed the creation of the WTO as the institution to oversee the operation of the world trading system. We are working with our trading partners to continue to strengthen this vital organization and ensure that it will be in a position to meet the trade challenges of the 21st century."

- 30 -

For further information, media representatives may contact:

Media Relations Office Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (613) 995-1874