

Food aid to China

Canada will provide a second \$2 million contribution in wheat to the People's Republic of China in response to an appeal by that country for assistance in meeting food shortages caused by drought and food in two Chinese provinces.

The Canadian government had previously announced a \$2 million in food aid to China. The \$4 million in wheat amounts to 16 000 tonnes and is part of a \$20-million response made to the international donor community to help alleviate the shortages which are affecting 22 million people.

The emergency relief is one aspect of a comprehensive aid program which the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) is developing with China. The program is also expected to assist in the development of human resources and in the transfer of technology particularly in the field of management training and in the agricultural, forestry and energy sectors.

Contribution to UNFPA



Gérard Pelletier (left), Canada's Permanent Representative to the United Nations, hands Rafael M. Salas, Executive Director of United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA), a letter indicating that the Canadian government will make a supplementary contribution of \$1 million (Cdn.) to UNFPA.

Trade minister leads industry mission to Japan

International Trade Minister Ed Lumley led a trade mission to Japan, March 15-19, for talks with Japanese Minister of International Trade and Industry Shintaro Abe and with officials of the Japanese government and business community.

The talks centred on Japan's recent trade liberalization measures, the auto industry, and the multilateral trading framework.

Accompanying Mr. Lumley to Tokyo were 50 businessmen representing Canadian food, forest products and high technology industries. The high technology group included 18 companies in aerospace, computers/telecommunications and ocean industries. In the food sector, about 35 Canadian companies and five national trade associations exhibited their products at Foodex 82, a major food exhibition being held in Tokyo.

Japanese mission to look at investment

During their talks Minister Lumley and Minister Abe agreed that a Japanese mission would be sent to Canada to study the Canadian investment environment. The mission is to be comprised of representatives of 37 companies primarily from the manufacturing sector.

Mr. Lumley said that the Canadian government welcomed Japanese investment and that Canada provided a stable investment climate with secure supplies of energy and other materials necessary for manufacturing.

The two ministers also agreed that efforts should be made to promote Canada-Japan co-operation in third countries. To this end the ministers agreed that the Canadian Export Development Corporation and the Export Insurance Division of the Japanese Ministry of International Trade and Industry should sign a joint insurance arrangement.

The arrangement would establish general principles for export insurance coverage of Canadian and Japanese companies which establish contractor/sub-contractor business relationships on projects in third countries.

In addition to bilateral matters, Minister Lumley continued discussions begun in Key Biscayne, Florida with Minister Abe on multilateral issues relating to the containment of protectionist pressures and to the key role that Japan can play in maintaining an open world trading environment. The two ministers also discussed the upcoming meeting of GATT

(General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade) trade ministers in Geneva, Switzerland.

In an address to the Canadian Chamber of Commerce in Tokyo, Mr. Lumley said that Canadian aerospace, ocean technology, and computer/telecommunications have "excellent prospects" for increased sales and for other types of industrial co-operation with Japanese partners, such as joint ventures and cross-licensing agreements. He added that the most advanced in their discussions with the Japanese were those companies in the computer/telecommunications field.

The Canadian minister said that the Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Public Corporation would send a mission to Canada this summer. He added that Canada was examining the prospects for increased sales of Canadian forest products to the Japanese market.

Mr. Lumley noted that also working to increase market access for Canadian goods to Japan is the Canada-Japan businessman's conference which will meet in May in Sapporo. The manufacturing group of the Canadian committee, said the minister, would propose to the Japanese side that they recognize certain categories of goods from Canada as having import possibilities for Japan. Some of the potential imports might be: non-ferrous metal castings, petrochemicals, glass, plastics and their products, ocean equipment and nuclear electric generating plant.

Canadian food companies exhibit

For the first time, Canadian companies participated in Foodex 82, the largest food show in Asia. Japan is the second largest market for Canada's agricultural and food exports, accounting for annual sales of \$1.5 billion. While the large majority of Canada's food exports to Japan are primary agricultural and fishery products, Foodex provided an opportunity for Canadian firms to display a range of processed food products.

Canadian firms participated at the exhibition under the umbrella of five key trade associations, the National Dairy Council of Canada, the Association of Canadian Distillers, the Canadian Meat Council, the Fisheries Council of Canada and Canadian Food Processor Association. Mr. Lumley said, "The objective was to demonstrate to the Japanese trade the capability of the Canadian food industry to supply a full range of processed food products."

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