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Department of Foreign Affairs
and International Trade

Ministère des Affaires étrangères
et du Commerce international

Ministère des Affaires étrangères
Min. des Affaires étrangères

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Canada

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LATEST ISSUE
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Leading the world on patent reform

Canada moves to expand access to affordable medicine

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The Government of Canada is leading the global movement to address public health problems, especially HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and other epidemics, by introducing legislative changes that will help give developing and least-developed countries greater access to much-needed, lower-cost pharmaceutical products.

The proposed changes to the Patent Act and the Food and Drugs Act make Canada the first country to take concrete measures to implement the World Trade Organization's (WTO) recent Declaration on the Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights Agreement and Public Health (Doha

Declaration). The legislative changes will make it easier for Canadian pharmaceutical companies to export their products to countries in need.

Under the WTO agreement, member countries may allow patented products to be manufactured under licence by someone other than the patent holder for a limited period of time and in response to a public demand by a country with insufficient pharmaceutical manufacturing capacity.

"These proposed legislative changes are broad, flexible and faithful to what WTO members have spent so long negotiating. We hope that our leading role encourages developed countries around the world to follow suit," said

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Aerospace partnering mission in Seattle

SEATTLE, WASHINGTON — February 9-11, 2004 — Don't miss a unique occasion to meet U.S. Pacific Northwest aerospace suppliers. The Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT), in partnership with Ontario Exports Inc., is planning a partnering mission targeting Washington and Oregon.

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Seattle

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