



News Release

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MINISTER WILSON WELCOMES VISIT OF CHINESE VICE-PREMIER ZHU RONGJI

The Honourable Michael Wilson, Minister of Industry, Science and Technology and Minister for International Trade, announced today that Chinese Vice-Premier Zhu Rongji will pay an official visit to Canada from May 17 to 23. During his stay, the Vice-Premier will visit Ottawa, Montreal, Toronto and Vancouver.

"The visit of Vice-Premier Zhu will mark an important event in our relationship with China," said Minister Wilson. The arrival of the Vice-Premier will follow closely the official visit to the People's Republic of China (PRC) by the Right Honourable Joe Clark in March. Minister Wilson also led a trade delegation to the PRC in April 1992.

Minister Wilson added that: "The visit of Vice-Premier Zhu will focus on Canada's trade and economic relations with the PRC and also will present an opportunity to discuss the broader international environment, as well as other dimensions of the bilateral relationship, including human rights."

Vice-Premier Zhu, who is the leading Vice-Premier with primary responsibility for economic reform in China, will hold bilateral talks with Minister Wilson on May 19 in Toronto. Their discussions are expected to centre on how Canada can co-operate with the PRC in the key export sectors of telecommunications, oil and gas, hydro-power, transportation, agriculture, environment, and financial services.

Both Vice-Premier Zhu and Minister Wilson will be keynote speakers at The Goodman Forum, a private-sector conference being held the same day in Toronto on Canadian business opportunities in China.

The Minister also announced that the 12th Canada-China Joint Economic and Trade Committee will meet on May 17 in Ottawa. This committee, chaired by R. Allen Kilpatrick, Deputy Minister for