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CANADA HOSTS THE FIRST CANADA-JAPAN WORKSHOP ON SPACE

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Right Honourable Joe Clark, and Industry Science and Technology Minister, the Honourable Benoît Bouchard announced today that Canadian and Japanese scientists will meet March 25-28 in Ottawa to discuss future co-operation at a workshop focusing on microgravity and earth observation. The workshop will be the first conducted under the auspices of the recently established Canada-Japan Space Panel.

"International co-operation and information exchanges are integral parts of Canada's space program. The Canadian Space Agency is therefore extremely pleased to host this initiative with Japan," said Minister Bouchard. The Agency is currently examining possible co-operative projects with Japan and is in the process of determining research and development areas of mutual interest.

External Affairs and International Trade Canada's support for this important workshop falls under the Japan Science and Technology Fund, a component of the Pacific 2000 program. The workshop represents but one element of a comprehensive strategy aimed at increasing scientific and technological co-operation between Canada and Japan.

"Closer scientific ties between this country and Japan will foster opportunities for the development of mutually beneficial co-operative links in areas such as science, technology development, trade and investment," stated Mr. Clark.