

News Release

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CANADA SET TO JOIN THE WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION ON JANUARY 1, 1995

The Honourable Roy MacLaren, Minister for International Trade, today welcomed Royal Assent of Bill C-57, *An Act to Implement the Agreement Establishing the World Trade Organization*. "Canada is now in a position to play a full and dynamic role in the new World Trade Organization (WTO) when it comes into force on January 1, 1995," Mr. MacLaren said.

"Canada was proud to propose the establishment of the WTO in the Uruguay Round negotiations," Mr. MacLaren added. "It will provide a strong foundation for the future expansion of trade and investment, generating jobs and growth in Canada and around the world."

Mr. MacLaren stressed that the momentum behind the Uruguay Round must be maintained. Unfinished negotiations on financial services, basic telecommunications, maritime services and temporary entry of personnel are scheduled for completion over the next 18 months. They promise to open up areas of considerable promise for Canada. "We also have a full agenda of 'new' issues to pursue, including trade and the environment, competition policy, and investment," Mr. MacLaren said.

Using the GATT/WTO framework as a base, Canada will continue to work towards greater multilateral, regional and bilateral trade liberalization. "In recent months, we have seen proof of the ground swell desire for freer trade in the Western Hemisphere and among Pacific nations. Our membership in the Quad (along with Japan, the European Union and the United States), in the G-7, and

