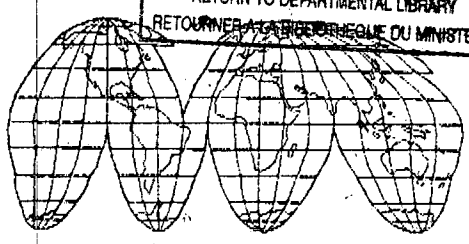


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Press Releases

Minister Wilson to Participate in Asia Pacific Economic Co-operation Meeting in Bangkok

September 9, 1992, No. 180

The Honourable Michael Wilson, Minister of Industry, Science and Technology and Minister for International Trade, will lead the Canadian delegation at the fourth Asia Pacific Economic Co-operation (APEC) Ministerial Meeting, in Bangkok, Thailand, September 10-11. The meeting is expected to see APEC emerge from a relatively unstructured forum for transpacific dialogue into a permanent regional institution. Mr. Wilson stressed the historic nature of the meeting and said that "it will enhance economic co-operation and dialogue in the region and will greatly help to boost Canada's trade and economic linkages with Asia Pacific nations." The Asia Pacific region is the fastest growing market for Canadian goods and services.

Ministers Announce Third Round of Consultations on Accelerated Tariff Elimination Under the FTA

September 8, 1992, No. 179

The Honourable Michael Wilson and the Honourable John McDermid, Minister of State (Finance and Privatization), announced that proposals for the early elimination of certain Canadian and U.S. tariffs have been published in the Canada Gazette. The Sept. 5, 1992 publication marks the beginning of public consultations on proposals for the third and final round of accelerated tariff eliminations under the Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement (FTA). "Canadian interest in early tariff elimination indicates that Canadian businesses are eager to take advantage of the significant benefits of the FTA and are working hard to make their industries more competitive," Minister Wilson said. Mr. McDermid added: "The government again is initiating thorough consultations to seek the views of domestic industry and other interested parties on the desirability of earlier tariff elimination on the products contained in this third list of requests." The Ministers emphasized that the early elimination of tariffs is made at the request of industry, and that the government will pursue only those proposals that enjoy broad support in the industry and are in the national interest.

McDougall Renews Call for End to Violence in South Africa September 8, 1992, No. 178

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Barbara McDougall, said she deplores the violence and loss of life that took place during a demonstration by South Africans at Bisho, Ciskei, on September 7. "This tragedy underscores the need for all parties in South Africa to get down to solving the problem of continuing violence," said Mrs. McDougall. "Every effort must be made to return to the negotiating table at the earliest possible moment." The Minister reaffirmed the Canadian government's position that, although all parties in South Africa share responsibility for the continuing political violence, the primary responsibility for the maintenance of law and order rests with the Government of South Africa.