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SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS ADDRESSES
THE FIRST MEETING OF THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE
ON PACIFIC ECONOMIC COOPERATION

On October 4 in Toronto the Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Right Honourable Joe Clark, addressed the inaugural meeting of the National Committee on Pacific Economic Cooperation. Mr. Clark had earlier in the year announced his intention to form the Committee during the March Meeting of the Pacific Rim Opportunities Conference.

The tripartite Committee, chaired by Mr. Eric Trigg, Senior Vice-President of Alcan Limited, consists of representatives (please see the attached list) from the private sector, the academic community and government. In his address to the Committee the SSEA outlined its broadly-based mandate to relate Canada to the Pacific Economic Cooperation process and to plan for the Pacific Economic Cooperation Conference to be staged in Vancouver November 16-19, 1986. Mr. Clark noted that this latter role would be of considerable importance because the National Committee would be playing host to its counterpart representatives from throughout the Pacific region.

Mr. Clark concluded his remarks by noting that the formulation of the tripartite Committee and the planned Pacific Economic Cooperation Conference in Vancouver marked another important step in strengthening Canada's ties with the countries of the Pacific region.