



# communiqué

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## MINISTERIAL MISSION TO PROMOTE CANADA-JAPAN RELATIONS

The Honorable El Lumley, Minister of Trade, arrived in Tokyo, Japan, yesterday to undertake four days of intensive trade talks with Japanese ministers, particularly Shintaro Abe, Minister of International Trade and Industry, and top-level officials of the Japanese government and business community.

Mr. Lumley said that the trade mission would concentrate on three main issues -- Japan's recent trade liberalization measures; the auto industry discussions; and the multilateral trading framework.

With Mr. Lumley will be 50 businessmen representing Canadian food, forest products and high technology industries.

The high technology group includes 18 companies in aerospace, computers/telecommunications and ocean industries. In the food sector, about 35 Canadian companies and five national trade associations, under the sponsorship of the Canadian Government, will be exhibiting their products at FOODEX 82, a major food exhibition being held in Tokyo.

Mr. Lumley noted that the Canadian companies accompanying him to Japan "will be attempting to maximize their potential for increased sales and could benefit from ventures, cross-licensing agreements or other types of industrial co-operation with Japanese partners."

Although there have been a substantial number of negative pronouncements by the European Community and the U.S. Congress recently regarding the package of trade liberalization measures announced earlier this year by the Japanese government, Mr. Lumley said that he would not prejudge the commitment but rather would explore firsthand with Canadian business leaders the new opportunities for foreign exporters in the Japanese market.