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CAIRNS GROUP OF AGRICULTURAL EXPORTERS TO MEET IN OTTAWA, MAY 21-23, 1987

The Honourable Pat Carney, Minister for International Trade, the Honourable Charles Mayer, Minister of State for the Canadian Wheat Board, and the Honourable John Wise, Minister of Agriculture, are pleased to announce that the second Ministerial meeting of the Cairns Group of agricultural exporters will be held in Ottawa, May 21-23, 1987. Canada's initiative to host the meeting midway between the OECD Ministerial meeting in Paris and the Venice Summit in June reflects the lead role Canada is taking in seeking solutions to the seriously deteriorating agricultural trade situation.

The Cairns Group which first met at Ministerial level last summer in Australia is a group of fourteen developed and developing country exporters (Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Fiji, Hungary, Indonesia, Malaysia, New Zealand, Philippines, Thailand, and Uruguay) whose common goal is to promote agricultural trade reform. The current Chairman is The Honourable John Dawkins, Minister of Trade for Australia. The Group was particularly influential in securing far-reaching objectives for agriculture in the current GATT round of multilateral trade negotiations launched in Punta del Este, Uruguay, last September.

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