

"Saudi Arabia is our largest trading partner in the Middle East," Mr. MacLaren noted. "Last year, Canada exported \$658 million in goods to Saudi Arabia, an increase of 52 percent over 1992. This reflects a strengthening economic relationship between our two countries."

With one quarter of the world's proven oil reserves and a growing population, the outlook for continued long-term economic growth in Saudi Arabia is excellent, providing increasing market opportunities for Canadian businesses. Among the sectors demonstrating the greatest promise are aerospace, telecommunications, oil and gas, electric power distribution, mining and minerals, and food and food-processing equipment.

"Canadian firms are involved in and seeking new opportunities in these and other sectors. By helping to promote these new trade opportunities with Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, we will help increase economic growth and job creation in Canada."

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