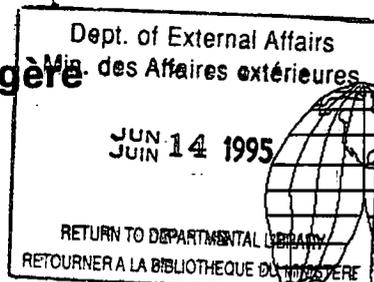


**This Week
in Trade and
Foreign Policy**

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June 7,
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June 1-7, 1995

**Le commerce et
la politique étrangère
cette semaine**



**Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade
Foreign Policy Communications Division (BCF)**

(disponible en français)

**FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND INTERNATIONAL TRADE:
PRESS RELEASES:**

Ministers Release NAFTA Statement

June 7, 1995, no. 104

On December 11, 1994, Prime Minister Chrétien of Canada, President Frei of Chile, President Zedillo of Mexico and President Clinton of the United States of America issued a joint statement announcing their decision to begin the process by which Chile will accede to the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). They also directed trade officials to undertake the preparations necessary to begin the formal negotiation, including focusing on relevant technical procedures and institutional issues. Furthermore, we, the Ministers responsible for trade were directed to meet and review the work of the officials and commence the full accession negotiation expeditiously thereafter. Consistent with the December 11, 1994 Statement, we have met and reviewed the preparatory work of the officials and are now providing the guidance to negotiators to commence the negotiation. Its progress should take into account each country's domestic procedures. As the December 11 Statement indicated, in launching this effort, we reaffirm that increased trade, integration and investment on the basis of agreed rules are vital to achieving sustainable growth and the creation of high paying employment opportunities in each country. We believe this action is a clear indication of our joint determination to build the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA) and to achieve a prosperous Americas.

Launch of Negotiations to Achieve Chile's Accession to NAFTA

June 5, 1995, no. 103

The Honourable Roy MacLaren, Minister for International Trade announced that Canada and its NAFTA partners will officially launch negotiations in Toronto on June 7, 1995, to achieve Chile's accession to the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). "It gives me great pleasure to join my colleagues, United States Trade Representative Michael Kantor, Mexican Secretary of Trade and Industry Herminio Blanco and Chilean Finance Minister Eduardo Aninat, to initiate these negotiations that will lead to Chile's accession to the NAFTA," said Mr. MacLaren. "The Government of Canada has worked hard during the last year to arrive at this day. We have made Chile's accession to the NAFTA a major trade policy priority. Chile's accession will ensure that the Agreement remains dynamic, flexible and outward-looking and will contribute to the impetus for further trade liberalization throughout the hemisphere. Chile presents exciting opportunities for Canadian businesses. Its accession to the NAFTA will strengthen our trade and investment ties," he said.

MacLaren Welcomes Visit of Dutch Minister of Trade

June 2, 1995, no. 102

The Honourable Roy MacLaren, Minister for International Trade, announced the visit to Canada of Anneke van Dok, Minister for Foreign Trade of the Netherlands, on June 5. Mrs. van Dok will meet with Mr. MacLaren and senior government officials to discuss issues of mutual interest, including transatlantic trade liberalization, strengthening the multilateral trading system, and the G-7 Summit in Halifax. "The Netherlands is an important partner for Canada in discussion of a broad range of multilateral economic, commercial and related issues. However, the scope of co-operation between our two countries could be expanded, and I will explore ways of achieving this objective with Mrs. van Dok during her visit," Mr. MacLaren said. The value of bilateral trade in 1994 exceeded \$2 billion. Dutch investment in Canada amounts to \$3.6 billion, while Canadian investment in the Netherlands stands at \$1.8 billion.

STATEMENTS

Madam Chairman, Canada has now completed five full years in the Organization of American States. We have found it to be a very productive and fulfilling experience, and we look forward to continued active involvement in the years ahead. Our future participation in the OAS will be shaped and influenced by three key events of the past 12 months: the issuance of the Canadian government's Foreign Policy Statement *Canada in the World*; the meeting of hemispheric leaders at the Summit of the Americas in December 1994; and the recent release of Secretary General Gaviria's *New Vision of the OAS*.... *Canada in the World* is important for our involvement in the OAS because it highlights the importance of Canada's relationship with our partners in the Western hemisphere, calling this region one of the new poles of political and economic power.... Another key element of the Foreign Policy Statement is the emphasis on Canada's participation in regional institutions, particularly the OAS. The document calls, in particular, for Canada to support the OAS in its efforts to reform and to increase its capacity for dealing with issues such as human rights, democracy, security and trade. In fact, these are the issues on which Canada has concentrated during its first five years in the OAS.... Respect for human rights is not only a fundamental value for Canadians, but also a crucial element in the development of stable, democratic and prosperous societies.... Canada continues to believe that it would be useful and appropriate for the OAS to develop a capability for the early identification, prevention and management of