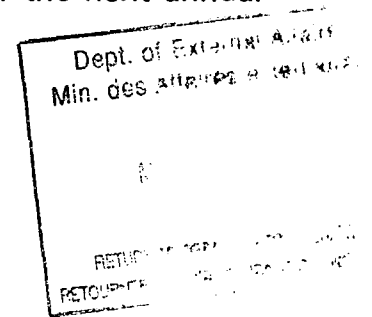


November 22-23, 1996: Eighth APEC Ministerial Meeting in **Manila, Philippines.** The Manila Action Plan for APEC (MAPA) is adopted integrating the Individual and Collective Action Plans (IAPs, CAPs) as well as progress reports on joint activities. Member economies confirm their commitment to implement the IAPs and CAPs starting January 1, 1997, and to review progress and chart next steps in November 1997.

November 25, 1996: Fourth APEC Economic Leaders Meeting in **Subic, Philippines.** Leaders endorse the MAPA and reaffirm their support of the WTO by calling for the conclusion of an information technology agreement in the WTO. Two weeks later, the First WTO Ministerial Conference in Singapore would make this commitment a reality. Leaders establish six priority areas for strengthening economic and technical cooperation including: human resources, efficient capital markets, economic infrastructure, technologies of the future, sustainable development, and SMEs. These areas are to be implemented in partnership with the private sector with a special effort to include the participation of women and youth. Leaders also meet with the APEC Business Advisory Council for the first time.

January 1997: Canada assumes the chairmanship of APEC and prepares to host APEC member economies in **Vancouver** from November 22-25 for the next annual meeting of Ministers and Leaders.



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