

Themes of the Ninth APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting

Leaders from 21 Pacific Rim economies will meet in Shanghai, China, Oct. 20–21, 2001, for the ninth Asia–Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Economic Leaders' Meeting. The stability and growth of the Asia–Pacific region is of vital importance to the world economy and to Canada. Leaders will gather to exchange views on the economic challenges facing the region and to provide direction to APEC's wide-ranging activities in support of trade and investment liberalization and sustainable long-term growth and prosperity.

APEC provides its members with a valuable forum for managing the diverse challenges presented by globalization and the new forms of international trade. This year, China has chosen Meeting New Challenges in the New Century: Achieving Common Prosperity through Participation and Co-operation as its overall theme for APEC. Three sub-themes have also been identified:

- **Sharing the Benefits of Globalization and the New Economy** — building on APEC's existing economic and technical co-operation agenda and doing more work on digital opportunities. This sub-theme also includes corporate governance and strengthening human resources development in APEC.
- **Advancing Trade and Investment** — maintaining momentum toward the Bogor goals through trade facilitation, improving the regional investment environment, and supporting the early launch of a new round of World Trade Organization negotiations on the basis of a balanced agenda.
- **Promoting Sustained Economic Growth** — enhancing co-operation on training in the financial sector, maintaining a macroeconomic policy dialogue, and encouraging structural reforms for the development of more competitive industries.

In advance of the leaders' meeting, APEC ministers responsible for trade and foreign affairs will meet Oct. 17–18, also in Shanghai.