



News Release

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WILSON ANNOUNCES NEW HEAD OF TRADE DISPUTE SECRETARIAT

The Honourable Michael Wilson, Minister of Industry, Science and Technology and Minister for International Trade, today announced the appointment of Cathy Beehan as Secretary of the Canadian section of the Binational Trade Dispute Secretariat, established under the Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement.

The Binational Secretariat, with offices in Ottawa and in Washington, D.C., is a permanent institution established under the FTA. The offices are managed by the Canadian Secretary and the American Secretary to provide administrative support to dispute settlement panels established under the FTA.

The Secretariat serves as the registry office for panel review procedures. All requests for review and other consultations under chapters 18 and 19 of the FTA are filed with the Secretariat.

Chapter 18 provides for the establishment of binational panels to settle disputes that occur over the interpretation or application of the FTA. Chapter 19 provides for binding binational panel dispute settlement in anti-dumping and countervail duty cases.

Ms. Beehan's appointment is effective January 1, 1992. Ms. Beehan, who previously served as a Senior Policy Adviser to the Minister of International Trade (1988-1991), replaces Ellen Beall, who served from January 1, 1989.

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