



Minister for
International Trade

Ministre du
Commerce extérieur

COMMUNIQUE

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MINISTER FOR INTERNATIONAL TRADE VISITS NEW ZEALAND AND AUSTRALIA

The Honourable Pat Carney, Minister for International Trade, will visit New Zealand and Australia March 22-28.

The Minister will participate in a meeting of Trade Ministers March 22-24 at Lake Taupo, New Zealand. The meeting is the fifth in a series of informal gatherings of Trade Ministers from twenty-two developed and developing countries for discussions on multilateral trading issues. The previous trade ministers' meetings played a useful role in developing a consensus to launch the Uruguay round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations (MTN), under the aegis of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

The meeting at Lake Taupo is expected to provide a valuable forum for reviewing progress in the new MTN round on reducing barriers to world trade and strengthening the GATT. In particular, Minister Carney will stress the importance of pursuing substantive negotiations as soon as possible, especially in the area of agriculture.

On March 25, the Minister will pay an official visit to Wellington, New Zealand. In her talks with the Minister of Overseas Trade and Marketing, the Hon. Mike Moore, Miss Carney will discuss prospects for early progress in the MTN, particularly with respect to agriculture. The Minister will also call on Prime Minister David Lange and the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, the Hon. Colin Moyle.

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