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MINISTERIAL TRADE TALKS

The Honourable Edward Lumley, Minister of State (International Trade), announced today that he will be participating in Ministerial level trade talks May 11-13 with United States Special Trade Representative William E. Brock; Shintaro Abe, Minister of International Trade and Industry of Japan; and Wilhelm Haferkamp, Vice-President (External Relations) of the Commission of the European Communities. The talks will take place at the Chateau d'Esclimont outside Paris, France immediately following the Ministerial session of the OECD. They represent a continuation of trade discussions which were held at Key Biscayne, Florida, last January 14-16.

The talks at the Chateau d'Esclimont, which will be informal in nature, will have as their general objective a better understanding of the current trading environment and, in that context, of the challenges which domestic developments pose for the international trading system.

Mr. Lumley will use the opportunity of the talks at the Chateau d'Esclimont to engage in separate bilateral discussions with each of the other participants. In this respect, Mr. Lumley will pursue with Mr. Abe proposals regarding automobiles and Japanese trade liberalization (for example, relating to SPF* dressed lumber), which were the subject of discussions during his visit to Japan earlier this year. His meetings with Mr. Brock and Mr. Haferkamp will also provide an occasion for exchanging views on trade matters of bilateral interest.

* Spruce, pine and fir