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## HOCKIN ANNOUNCES VISIT OF VIETNAMESE TRADE MINISTER

The Honourable Tom Hockin, Minister for International Trade, today announced the visit to Canada of Le Van Triet, Viet Nam's Minister of Trade and Tourism, from August 21 to 28, 1993. Mr. Triet will visit Vancouver, Calgary, Toronto, London and Montreal.

"The visit of Minister Triet is an indication of the considerable interest in Viet Nam by Canadian businesses, which see the growth potential of the country and are eager to develop closer commercial ties," said Mr. Hockin.

Minister Triet will meet with representatives from a number of companies in each of the five cities. Mr. Hockin added that Canadian companies have much expertise to offer Viet Nam, particularly in the areas of oil and gas, telecommunications, transportation, agriculture, airport development and environmental technology.

Mr. Triet and Mr. Hockin will meet in London on August 26. Mr. Hockin said that while the visit will focus on trade and economic development, it will also provide an opportunity to discuss other aspects of the bilateral relationship, including human rights.

During their talks, the Ministers are expected to sign a declaration on economic co-operation between Canada and Viet Nam. This declaration will commit both countries to the early conclusion of a formal economic co-operation agreement and the eventual negotiation of agreements on foreign investment protection and the avoidance of double taxation.

Mr. Hockin said that all of these agreements will help the private sector pursue business opportunities in Viet Nam.