

News Release

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CANADA TO BE REPRESENTED AT THE
EUREKA FORUM IN VENICE

International Trade Minister John C. Crosbie announced today that Canada has accepted the invitation from the Chairman of the Eureka Ministerial Club in Western Europe, to have a political figure from Canada attend the Eureka Industrial Forum on Technology, Production and Environment in Venice, Italy on October 27-28, 1989.

M.P. Guy Ricard is the Canadian Delegate to the Eureka Forum. Mr. Ricard is the Deputy-Chairman of the House of Commons Standing Committee on Industry, Science and Technology, and Regional and Northern Development. He will be accompanied by experts from External Affairs and International Trade Canada.

Eureka is the research program launched in 1985 by 17 Western European countries along with the European Community, to promote industrial cooperation and to increase the technological competitiveness of Europe. The program has 297 projects in various sectors valued at an estimated \$8 billion. This year, Eureka is headed by Professor A. Ruberti, the Italian Minister for Universities and Scientific and Technological Research.

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In 1986, Canada's Prime Minister Mulroney announced a two-year \$20 million program to help Canadian companies participate in Eureka projects. So far, four Canadian companies have been successful in gaining full membership on Eureka project teams, and others have sub-contracted with European partners.

Today, at the Venice Eureka Forum, Mr. Ricard is making a presentation to emphasize Canada's interest in pursuing closer cooperative activities with Europe, with a view to developing economically and environmentally sound technologies. He will invite European companies to visit Globe 90, which will take place in Vancouver, from March 19 to 23, 1990. This trade fair and conference is a unique event in North America, and is being organized by Canadian industry and government to promote environmentally realistic economic development.

Peripheral to the Eureka Forum, Mr. Ricard will meet privately with Mr. F.M. Pandolfi, Vice-President of the European Community and Commissioner responsible for the Research and Technological Development Program of this organization of twelve Western European Countries. They will discuss current questions on bilateral cooperation in science and technology, and in particular a proposed science and technology framework agreement.

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