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MINISTER KELLEHER TO CIRCLE GLOBE TO PROMOTE TRADE

The Minister for International Trade, James Kelleher, will go on an official trip around the world in support of the Government's global trade strategy.

Mr. Kelleher will visit London, England, four countries in Southeast Asia, and Hong Kong, from February 9 to February 22, 1986.

In London (February 9-10), Mr. Kelleher will stress the importance of Western Europe in Canada's Trade Strategy. He will discuss this strategy with the Heads of Post and senior trade officers from Canada's missions in the 12 top markets in Western Europe for Canadian exports. In addition, Mr. Kelleher will have a meeting with the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, the Right Honourable Paul Channon. On February 10 he will address a luncheon meeting of the Canada/UK Chamber of Commerce.

Following that, Mr. Kelleher will travel to Southeast Asia. He will be in Singapore (February 11 & 12), Indonesia (February 12-14), Malaysia (February 15-18), and Thailand (February 18-21). These countries are members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). Canadian business representatives with interests in the region will participate in the program. "My principal mission will be to help open doors for Canadian businesses that want to do business there", Mr. Kelleher said. Mr. Kelleher will make a number of announcements during his visit in support of increased economic and commercial co-operation with the ASEAN countries. He will also promote tourism for Expo '86, to be held in Vancouver between May and October 1986.

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Mr. Kelleher said this trip is part of the Government's global trade strategy. "We launched a major new trade initiative in the Pacific Rim, at the same time that we proposed bilateral trade talks with the Americans. We have also taken a leading role in promoting a new round of multilateral trade negotiations under the GATT, and I will be discussing with my counterparts how best to advance our common interests in the new round", Mr. Kelleher said. Canada has proposed Montreal as the site of the ministerial launch for the new GATT round.

After his visit to the ASEAN countries, Mr. Kelleher will go on to Hong Kong (February 21-22), where he will open the new offices of the Canadian Commission and discuss business opportunities with local and Canadian business people residing in Hong Kong.

This will be his third official visit to the Asia/Pacific region in the last 12 months, following his trips to Korea, Japan, Australia, and New Zealand. With the conclusion of this trip, Mr. Kelleher will have visited 17 countries outside North America promoting the Government's global trade strategy.

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