



News Release

Communiqué

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MINISTER WILSON TO ATTEND CANADA-U.S. TRADE COMMISSION AND NAFTA MEETINGS IN SEATTLE

The Honourable Michael H. Wilson, Minister of Industry, Science and Technology and Minister for International Trade, will attend meetings in Seattle August 18 to 20.

On August 18, Minister Wilson and U.S. Trade Representative Carla A. Hills, who together constitute the Canada-U.S. Trade Commission, will discuss issues relating to the implementation and management of the Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement (FTA).

On August 19 and 20, Minister Wilson will meet with Ambassador Hills and Mexican Secretary of Commerce Jaime Serra Puche to review progress made in the North American Free Trade (NAFTA) negotiations and to plan further work to move the negotiations forward.

Since the inaugural Ministerial meeting on NAFTA in Toronto on June 12, working groups have completed two rounds of meetings, and the chief negotiators have held two plenary meetings, in Washington and Cocoyoc, Mexico, respectively.

A program of Mr. Wilson's trip to Seattle is attached.

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For further information, media representatives may contact:

Media Relations Office
External Affairs and International Trade Canada
(613) 995-1874

MINISTER WILSON'S PROGRAM -- SEATTLE

Sunday, August 18

- 12:30 - 16:00 Meeting of Canada-U.S. Trade Commission --
Columbia Tower
- 16:15 Minister Wilson and U.S. Trade Representative
Carla A. Hills to meet with media* --
Columbia Tower
- 19:00 North American Free Trade Negotiations
(NAFTA) Working Dinner -- Columbia Tower

Monday, August 19

- 09:00 - 10:00 Meeting with the Committee on International
Trade and Foreign Relations of the National
Governors' Association -- Seattle Convention
Centre -- Minister Wilson, Ambassador Hills
and Secretary Serra will speak.**
- 10:55 NAFTA photo opportunity* -- Columbia Tower
- 11:00 - 17:00 Meeting with Ambassador Hills and Secretary
Serra to discuss North American Free Trade
Agreement -- Columbia Tower
- 17:30 - 18:30 Reception hosted by Washington Council for
International Trade -- Seattle Art Museum
- 19:00 Ministerial working dinner on NAFTA --
Columbia Tower

Tuesday, August 20

- 09:00 - 12:30 NAFTA Meeting resumes -- Columbia Tower.
- 12:30 - 13:45 Luncheon hosted by U.S. Intergovernmental
Policy Advisory Committee on Trade (IGPAC) --
Columbia Tower
- Time t.b.a. NAFTA Ministerial News Conference* --
Columbia Tower

* Media must be accredited by U.S. Trade Representative's Office to gain access to these events. Accreditation may be obtained at USTR Command Center, Room 424, Stouffer-Madison Hotel, 515 Madison Street, Seattle, Washington (206) 583-0300 between 13:00 and 15:00, Saturday August 17 to Monday August 19. A press identification badge is needed.

** Open to media. Media must be accredited by National Governors' Association to gain access to this event. Accreditation may be obtained at the Seattle Convention Center, Sixth Floor, as of Saturday August 17. A press identification badge is needed. For more information, call National Governors' Association at (206) 447-5067.