



communiqué

N°:
No.: 07

JANUARY 24, 1985

VISIT BY THE MINISTER FOR INTERNATIONAL TRADE TO KOREA AND JAPAN

The Honourable James F. Kelleher, Minister for International Trade, will make an official visit to Korea and Japan between February 3-11, 1985. The Minister confirmed today that he was giving the Pacific priority attention to his efforts to increase Canadian exports.

The Minister stated: "Rapid economic growth in the Pacific region has created significant markets for Canadian exports. There is potential for us to do much more. We must exploit that potential and to that end I will be visiting Korea and Japan in February for trade talks and expect to make other visits to the area later in the spring".

In discussing his forthcoming visit, Mr. Kelleher said that the region, with its dynamic economic growth, provides significant market opportunities for increased Canadian exports of resource products, manufactured goods and services.

Both Japan and Korea were selected for the Minister's first Asian tour because of their particular significance at Canadian export markets. In 1984 two-way trade with Japan totalled an estimated \$11.3 billion establishing Japan as Canada's second largest trading partner. Two-way trade with the Republic of Korea during the same period totalled an estimated \$1.8 billion making it one of Canada's significant Pacific trading partners.

While in the Republic of Korea, from February 3-6, the Minister will be participating in the 8th Meeting of Canadian and Korean Trade Ministers and holding extensive discussions with his host, the Honourable Jin-Ho Kum, Minister of Trade and Industry, and other Korean Ministers to identify export market opportunities. Mr. Kelleher will be accompanied by a group of ten Canadian business executives and will meet with them and a number of senior Korean businessmen to discuss private sector initiatives.

In Tokyo, from February 6-8, Mr. Kelleher will meet with his host, the Minister of International Trade and Industry, Mr. Keijiro Murata, as well as other Ministers, to review a wide range of economic and trade issues. The Minister noted that "in the course of my visit I will be meeting a number of Canadian and Japanese businessmen to review the investment climate in Canada, new economic policies of the Government with respect to trade promotion and Canada's commitment to remain a reliable supplier of resource and advanced technology products for Japanese industry". In this regard, Mr. Kelleher noted that he would be addressing a number of these issues during a speech to the Canadian Chamber of Commerce in Japan.

Following his bilateral visit, Mr. Kelleher will travel on to Kyoto to participate in a Quadrilateral Trade Ministers Meeting from February 9-11. In his meetings with Ministers from the USA, Japan and the European Community, he will be discussing developments in the international trading system, and reviewing preparations for a new round of multi-lateral trade negotiations.