

Minister for

Ministre du International Trade Commerce extérieur

## COMMUNIQUÉ

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## MINISTER FOR INTERNATIONAL TRADE MEETS WITH INTERNATIONAL TRADE ADVISORY COMMITTEE (ITAC)

The Minister for International Trade, The Honourable Pat Carney is meeting today in Toronto with the International Trade Advisory Committee (ITAC). This is the fourth meeting of ITAC since its establishment last January.

Ms. Carney also attended yesterday a reception and dinner on the occasion of a meeting between the members of ITAC and the Chairpersons of the 15 Sectoral Advisory Groups on International Trade (SAGITs). The purpose of the meeting was to review and exchange information on the activities of the committees.

The ITAC and SAGITs are components of a trade advisory committee system established by the Government to provide advice on international trade matters, including the Canada-United States and the Multilateral Trade Negotiations (MTN). The mandate of ITAC is to provide advice to the Government on a variety of trade issues in relation to the Canada-United States and other negotiations.

The SAGITs role is to ensure that sectoral views are fully taken into account on all trade matters. The Committees meet regularly and provide advice to the Government on a variety of trade issues in relation to the Canada-United States and other negotiations.

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The ITAC and the SAGITs which report to the Minister for International Trade were set up to ensure the broadest and most extensive process of consultations between the private sector and the government in Canadian trade history.

With respect to the Canada/United States and the Multilateral Trade Negotiations (MTN), ITAC and the SAGITs work closely with the Trade Negotiations Office.

A secretariat within the Department of External Affairs has been established to assist the advisory groups in their work.

For further information, please contact:

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