



news release

Date November 5, 1990.

No. 254

For release

TOM HOCKIN PROMOTES TRADE IN KOREA AND AUSTRALIA

Tom Hockin, Minister of State for Small Businesses and Tourism, will visit South Korea November 8-11 and Australia November 11-16, on behalf of the Minister for International Trade, John C. Crosbie, to promote tourism and trade.

In Seoul, Mr. Hockin will be participating in the Canada Business and Technology Week November 5-9, a major commercial event sponsored by External Affairs and International Trade Canada that brings together Canadians and Koreans from the business, tourism, academic, legal and financial communities.

The conference helps raise Korean awareness of Canadian goods and services, especially high technology products, with a view to correcting Canada's trade deficit with the Asian country. Canada is particularly interested in finding niches for technologically advanced goods that will create more jobs for Canadians.

One of the key events of Canada Business and Technology Week is a meeting of the Canada-Korea Business Council (CKBC), a forum of Canadian and Korean business people who discuss mutual concerns in the area of Canada-Korea trade and investment.

Korea is Canada's fifth largest trading partner, second only in the Pacific to Japan. Canada sold \$1.6 billion in goods to South Korea in 1989 and imported \$2.4 billion, registering a deficit of \$838 million.

Mr. Hockin also will meet senior Korean cabinet ministers to review bilateral trade relations between South Korea and Canada and chair a meeting of Koreans and Canadians interested in tourism investment opportunities in Canada.

In Australia, Mr. Hockin will visit Sydney, Melbourne and Canberra, where he will call on state and federal ministers of industry and tourism.

.../2

The minister will meet senior officials to support the purchase of light armoured vehicles from General Motors of Canada.

He will also promote Canadian telecommunications industry interests in Australia's program of privatization. Transfer of part of the industry into private hands opens opportunities for Canadian sales of mobile radios, cable television, satellites and fibre optics.

As minister responsible for Canada's aboriginal economic programs, Mr. Hockin will hold discussions with his Australian counterparts and leaders of Australia's aboriginal community to examine ways of improving native people's involvement in economic affairs.

-30-

For more information, media representatives may contact:
Media Relations Office
External Affairs and International Trade Canada
(613) 995-1874

or

Douglas Drever
Press Secretary to the Hon. Tom Hockin
(613) 995-1333