



Minister for
International Trade

Ministre du
Commerce extérieur

COMMUNIQUE

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MINISTER FOR INTERNATIONAL TRADE VISITS NEW ZEALAND AND AUSTRALIA

The Honourable Pat Carney, Minister for International Trade, will visit New Zealand and Australia March 22-28.

The Minister will participate in a meeting of Trade Ministers March 22-24 at Lake Taupo, New Zealand. The meeting is the fifth in a series of informal gatherings of Trade Ministers from twenty-two developed and developing countries for discussions on multilateral trading issues. The previous trade ministers' meetings played a useful role in developing a consensus to launch the Uruguay round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations (MTN), under the aegis of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

The meeting at Lake Taupo is expected to provide a valuable forum for reviewing progress in the new MTN round on reducing barriers to world trade and strengthening the GATT. In particular, Minister Carney will stress the importance of pursuing substantive negotiations as soon as possible, especially in the area of agriculture.

On March 25, the Minister will pay an official visit to Wellington, New Zealand. In her talks with the Minister of Overseas Trade and Marketing, the Hon. Mike Moore, Miss Carney will discuss prospects for early progress in the MTN, particularly with respect to agriculture. The Minister will also call on Prime Minister David Lange and the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, the Hon. Colin Moyle.

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Canada

The Australian Government has invited Miss Carney to visit Australia March 26-28. In Canberra, the Minister will call on Prime Minister Bob Hawke, and meet with the Minister of Trade, the Hon. John Dawkins and the Minister for Primary Industry, the Hon. John Kerin. Miss Carney's discussions in Canberra will further the close consultation and cooperation that exists between the two countries on bilateral and multilateral trade issues.

The Minister has also been invited to address the National Press Club in Canberra on Canada's key trade policy concerns and objectives in the current international trading environment.

In both New Zealand and Australia, Miss Carney will be pursuing improved access conditions for Canadian exports as well as discussions on other bilateral trade issues of mutual concern. The Minister will also discuss recent progress in the Australia-New Zealand free trade arrangement.

While in Australia, the Minister will visit Brisbane to highlight Canada's forthcoming participation in EXPO '88. Miss Carney will officially mark Canada's participation by raising the Canadian flag on the exposition site. The theme of EXPO '88 is technology and leisure. Canada's pavilion will highlight our many accomplishments as a world leader in the development of leisure products and leisure technology.