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MINISTER REGAN'S TRADE MISSION TO INDONESIA

The Honourable Gerald Regan, Minister of State (International Trade), arrived in Jakarta from Hong Kong today for his first visit to the five ASEAN countries (Association of South East Asian Nations). Throughout this tour, the Minister will be accompanied by high level officials and some 40 senior Canadian businessmen. The purpose of the visit is to follow up on commercial initiatives supported by Prime Minister Trudeau during his visit in January, and to promote activities of Canadian companies in exploring new opportunities.

Upon his arrival in Jakarta, the Minister participated in a reception given by Sceptre Resources (Indonesia) Limited to celebrate the opening of their first office in Indonesia. Sceptre Resources, a Calgary based company, has recently won a contract with the Indonesia State Oil Company -- Pertamina -- to undertake oil exploration at several locations in the Java Sea.

This is the first of several ceremonies and announcements in which the Minister will be participating during his visit. Minister Regan stated "I estimate that the amount of exports from Canada to Indonesia in trade represented by these signings and agreements will total over \$100 million".

During the course of his three day mission, the Minister will be officially hosted by his opposite number, Dr. Rachmat Saleh, Minister of Trade. In addition to candid exchange of views on trade, Mr. Regan said "I was pleased to be able to remind Dr. Saleh of several Canadian companies actively pursuing contracts in transportation and energy sectors especially". Further meetings were held with Umar Wirahadikusumah, Vice President of the Republic; Dr. J.B. Sumarlin, Minister of State for National Development/Planning (who is also chairman of the National Planning Board); and Dr. B.J. Habibie, Minister of State for Research and Technology.

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At the meeting with Dr. Sumarlin, Mr. Regan pointed out that "at least five Canadian firms - including Capsule Technology of Windsor - have concluded or are pursuing licensing/joint venture agreements with Indonesian partners. This is concrete evidence of success of Canada's active support for increased private sector links with Indonesia."

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