

Minister for
International
Trade



Ministre du
Commerce
extérieur

No. 100

April 26, 1991

MINISTER WILSON TO MEET JAPANESE COUNTERPART

The Minister of Industry, Science and Technology and Minister for International Trade, Michael H. Wilson, will meet with Japan's Minister of International Trade and Industry (MITI), Eiichi Nakao, on April 30 in Ottawa to discuss progress of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations (MTN) and other issues of mutual interest. Mr. Nakao will meet the next day with Prime Minister Brian Mulroney.

"We want to impress upon the MITI Minister Canada's commitment to a successful completion of the Uruguay Round and are encouraged that Japan also is making this a priority," said Mr. Wilson. "We will discuss the importance of securing the foundation of an international trade order that will lower barriers to trade, increase prosperity and encourage healthy global competition."

Japan is Canada's second-largest trading partner after the United States and most important overseas partner, with two-way trade totalling \$17.7 billion in 1990. Japanese direct investment, which now exceeds \$4 billion, is concentrated in the auto industry, forest products and tourism sectors.

The growth of Japanese investment in Canada and Canadian access to Japanese markets are among the bilateral issues the trade ministers will discuss. Others include the spruce-pine-fir lumber tariff and Canada's coal exports to Japan.

"We will continue to seek improved access to the Japanese market both bilaterally and through the MTN," Mr. Wilson said. "At the same time we will build on a strong and harmonious trade and investment relationship by continually exploring new ways of promoting economic partnerships."

- 30 -

For further information, media representatives may contact:

Media Relations Office
External Affairs and International Trade Canada
(613) 995-1874