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Title Outcomes of the Sixth Round of Korea-Canada FTA Negotiations

Date 2006-06-30 Speaker

1. The sixth round of negotiations for the conclusion of the Korea-Canada FTA was held from June 26 to 29 at the Institute of Foreign Affairs and National Security (IFANS) in Seoul, Korea.

- The lead negotiator for the Korean delegation was Mr. Kim Han-soo, Director-General of the Free Trade Agreement Bureau at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, and comprised of 80 officials from related ministries such as the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, the Ministry of Finance and Economy, the Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Energy, and the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry. The Canadian delegation was headed by Mr. Ian Burney, Director-General of the Bilateral and Regional Trade Policy Bureau of the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, and consisted of 40 members.

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2. Discussions on the consolidated text continued in this round, with negotiations on the specific chapters dealing with goods, services (including communications and movement of labor), investment, competition, government procurement, environment, and labor. The two sides worked on tariff concession negotiations for the liberalization of trade in goods by exchanging each other's requests lists on goods, and discussed on the reservation list of services and investment.

3. The seventh round of negotiations is expected to be held in Ottawa, Canada during the fourth week of September. The two sides plan to exchange their second tariff concessions schedules for goods in the next round, which will provide the basis for negotiations.

4. Korea's FTA negotiations with Canada started in July last year and have been held once every two months since, for a total of six times. The government plans to work towards concluding the negotiations within this year.

Spokesperson for MOFAT

* unofficial translation

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110-787 Republic of Korea 95-1 Doryeom-dong Jongno-gu Seoul
TEL: 02.2100-2114 FAX:02.2100-7999 web@mofat.go.kr
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