

## Commonwealth

### **Mr. Clark's Visit to Southern Africa**

External Affairs Minister Joe Clark left on a week long Commonwealth trip on January 27 to visit Kenya, Tanzania, Zambia, and Zimbabwe. The highlight of the trip was his chairing the first meeting of a Committee of Commonwealth Foreign Ministers on Apartheid in Lusaka. The Committee of eight member countries had been formed at the Commonwealth Conference in Vancouver last year to guide further Commonwealth moves aimed at ending Apartheid in South Africa (*Ottawa Citizen*, January 22). (See "International Canada" for October and November 1987).

## EEC

Canada was given until the end of January to settle with the Europeans the controversial issue of provincial liquor board practices. The deadline was extended from January 20 to January 31 after International Trade Minister Pat Carney met with European Economic commissioner Willy de Clero in Indonesia where they were attending a trade conference (*Ottawa Citizen*, January 9).

## GATT

Minister of International Trade Pat Carney, in a speech to the 23rd annual session of the GATT Contracting Parties in Geneva on December 1, reaffirmed Canada's commitment to the multilateral trading system and to its further liberalization and strengthening through the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations (MTN). The Minister also reconfirmed Canada's offer to host a midterm review of developments in the MTN possibly towards the end of 1988.

Ms. Carney outlined Canada's five priorities in the Uruguay Round: (1) strengthening the GATT system; (2) developing new rules and better access for agricultural trade; (3) improving and securing market access; (4) dealing with the new issues of trade in service and the trade-related aspects of intellectual property and investment measures; and (5) the greater participation and integration of developing countries into the GATT (*International Trade Communiqué*, December 1).

Pat Carney, Minister of International Trade, and Tom Siddon, Minister of Fisheries and Oceans, announced that the government was working closely with industry in developing Canada's response to the recent GATT panel ruling on West Coast salmon and herring.

Ms. Carney noted that the panel report would be discussed in the GATT Council in early February, at which time Canada would raise its concern about the broader implications of its findings. She indicated that among the policy options to be explored, would be a bilateral solution with the US or the application by Canada of alternative regulatory measures which would ensure the integrity of

Canada's west coast fisheries conservation and management regime (*International Trade Communiqué*, December 18).

## NATO

Prime Minister Brian Mulroney announced that he planned to attend a strategy summit of Western European leaders at NATO Headquarters in Brussels, probably in March. The meeting of the heads of the sixteen NATO countries, the first in more than a decade, was planned as a "reaffirmation of faith in the alliance," according to diplomatic sources in London (*Ottawa Citizen*, January 13).

## SADCC

On his way to Lusaka, Mr. Clark stopped in Arusha, Tanzania, to address the Southern African Development Coordination Conference (SADCC) on January 28. He announced an increase of Canadian aid to Southern Africa for 1988 by \$8 million to \$40 million. "SADCC is an example of efficiency," Mr. Clark said in a keynote address to the group and added that "it is one of the most effective responses to South Africa's policies to systematically disrupt trade and economic growth in SADCC countries." SADCC is an organization of nine southern African states Angola, Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Swaziland, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe, founded in 1980 to reduce economic dependence on South Africa. SADCC members asked donors to focus this year on rehabilitating the regional railway to break dependence on South African trade routes. Canada offered \$20 million for a study on the line to start March 1 (*Ottawa Citizen*, January 29).

Canada will establish a bilateral aid program for Mozambique and increase annual funding to SADCC from \$30 million to nearly \$40 million per year by the early 1990s. (*External Affairs Communiqué*, January 28).

## United Nations

### **PLO**

Canada spearheaded a drive to oppose US plans to remove Palestine Liberation Organization observers at the United Nations from the United States. Shutting down the PLO office in New York would "set a dangerous precedent," Canadian diplomat Phillippe Kirsch told the United Nations. Canada was one of 100 countries which voted to affirm the PLO's right to maintain its 13-year-old observer mission to the UN. According to a report in the *Toronto Star*, only Israel voted against the resolution and the United States did not take part. While Ottawa does not view the PLO as the only voice of the Palestinian people, "it does represent a significant element of Palestinian opinion," and should be heeded in any effort to resolve the Arab-Israeli conflict, Kirsch told the UN Committee on international legal matters. "Palestinians must play a full part in nego-