



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
MINISTÈRE DES AFFAIRES EXTÉRIEURES

communiqué

No.: 15

DIFFUSION: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
RELEASE: MARCH 17, 1980

CANADIAN DELEGATION TO THE SPECIAL GENERAL CONFERENCE OF
THE AGENCY FOR CULTURAL AND TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION (ACCT)
PARIS, MARCH 25 TO 27, 1980

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mark MacGuigan, announces that he will lead the Canadian delegation to the Special General Conference of the Agency for Cultural and Technical Co-operation to be held in Paris from March 25 to 27. He will be accompanied by Charles Lapointe, Minister of State and by Louis Duclos, Parliamentary Secretary to the Secretary of State for External Affairs. The delegation will include representatives from Quebec and New Brunswick as participating governments in the Agency, as well as federal government advisers.

The decision to hold a Special General Conference was made by the Member States at the Sixth General Conference of the Agency which was held in Lomé, Togo from December 12 to 15; the members felt that one of the main items on the agenda of that Conference, reform of the fundamental texts, merited deeper consideration.

This review seems to be necessary if the Agency, which is ten years old, is to pursue its mission of promoting and spreading knowledge of national cultures, as well as of stepping up multilateral cultural and technical co-operation. The agenda of the Special General Conference will also deal with the special budget for actions to show solidarity with some member countries.