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MONIQUE LANDRY WELCOMES EAST AFRICAN DELEGATION

Monique Landry, Minister for External Relations met yesterday with representatives of a new organization from Eastern Africa called the Intergovernmental Authority on Drought and Development (IGADD). This organization has been formed to rally the efforts of Somalia, Sudan, Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda and Djibouti in the struggle against the droughts and food shortages that periodically affect this area.

The IGADD delegation was led by Mr. Salah Al-Khalifa, Sudanese Minister of Cabinet Affairs. Accompanying him were Mr. Mahmoud Abdinour, Vice-Minister of Somalia for Agriculture, Mr. Philip Leakey, Vice-Minister of Environment and Natural Resources of Kenya and Dr. Makonnen Kebret, Executive Secretary, IGADD.

Mrs. Landry welcomed the creation of IGADD and expressed the hope that it would continue to improve relations and cooperation among East African countries. "Canada, she said, was very concerned about the needs of the different regions of Africa and will look at appropriate ways of helping IGADD".

IGADD will be sponsoring a major conference in mid-March to bring together representatives from donor countries in Djibouti. Canada will be represented at this meeting.