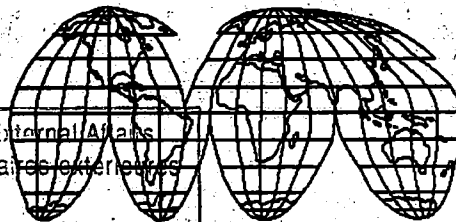


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Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada (BCF)
Affaires étrangères et Commerce extérieur Canada (BCF)

**This Week Le commerce et
in Trade and la politique étrangère
Foreign Policy cette semaine**



Dept. of External Affairs
Min. des Affaires étrangères

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December 3, 1993, No. 223

PRESS RELEASES:

Canada to Send Electoral Observers to Russia

Foreign Affairs Minister André Ouellet announced that Canada is sending a team of electoral observers to Russia to monitor the December 12 parliamentary elections and constitutional referendum. "President Boris Yeltsin has committed himself to free and fair balloting for a new parliament and a new constitution, and we are pleased that he has invited the international community to witness the process," said Mr. Ouellet.

Canada to Participate in Ministerial Conference of la Francophonie in Mali

December 2, 1993, No. 222

Foreign Affairs Minister André Ouellet announced that Michel Dupuy, Minister of Canadian Heritage, will lead the Canadian delegation at the Ministerial Conference of la Francophonie in Bamako, Mali, December 7 to 9. The conference, an immediate result of the latest Francophone Summit, held in Mauritius last October, will give the ministers an opportunity to take stock of the co-operative programs among Francophone countries and of the future of la Francophonie. This will be the third such conference since the institutional reforms adopted at the Chaillot Summit in November 1991.

Official International Reserves (Issued by Finance Canada)

December 3, 1993, No. 93-068

The Department of Finance announced that Canada's official international reserves decreased by an amount equivalent to US\$817 million during November to US 12 076 million; official government operations decreased reserves by US\$441 million.

STATEMENTS:

I'd like to begin by re-emphasizing the importance that the Government of Canada attaches to the successful conclusion of the Uruguay Round; our support for the efforts, past, present and future, deployed by the Director-General, Peter Sutherland, in support of that objective; and our conviction that whatever disagreements remain outstanding among the Contracting Parties, we will succeed in the end because we must succeed. The world needs this Round, and so does Canada. While the old cliché still holds that nothing is agreed until everything is agreed, it is clear that the Canadian exporter and worker can look forward to new sales and new markets abroad, meaning new jobs at home, at a time when the Canadian economic recovery is already export-led. For the same reason, the Canadian consumer is poised to benefit significantly from the reduction of tariffs and other barriers projected for the final outcome.

From an Address by the Honourable Roy MacLaren, Minister for International Trade, at a news Conference (Geneva, Switzerland, December 7, 1993, No. 93/64).