

They agreed to meet as soon as possible to discuss plans for such a program. The Canadian side agreed to provide to the Gabonese government specific funding for this aspect of technical assistance and multidisciplinary training.

CIDA stated that it was prepared to extend a line of credit for projects in the fields of rural development, energy and rural water supply.

The Canadian side also expressed its willingness to use selectively other mechanisms of cooperation, mainly institutional cooperation, industrial cooperation and the Mission-Administered Funds program of the Canadian Embassy in Libreville.

After noting the low level of trade between them and seeking ways and means of intensifying it, the two sides agreed in principle to organize in 1985 in Canada, economic sessions to promote direct contacts between Canadian and Gabonese businessmen, to identify projects in Gabon in the area of small and medium businesses and to create in Canada a commercial office for the Gabonese Centre for Foreign Trade.

Both sides were pleased with the climate of friendship and mutual understanding that prevailed throughout their discussions, testimony to the excellent relations between Prime Minister Trudeau and President Bongo and between the peoples of the two countries.

At the close of his visit, Mr. Bongo expressed his gratitude to Mr. Pepin and the Canadian government for the warm reception and the hospitality extended to him and to the Gabonese delegation.

At the end of the session, the two Ministers initialled a contract under which Tecsalt of Montreal will construct a new building for the Department of External Affairs in Libreville. EDC will finance the project.

The Ministers were present at the conclusion of an agreement for a technical training project that will include construction of a professional training centre and provision of teaching materials by Sofati of Montreal.

Mr. Bongo extended to his Canadian counterpart an invitation to pay an official visit to Gabon. The invitation was accepted.

The two sides agreed to hold the third session of the Bilateral Commission in 1985, in the Gabonese Republic.