



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
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# communiqué

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THE CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS OF EDUCATION  
OF FRENCH-SPEAKING COUNTRIES (CONFEMEN)

32ND SESSION

QUEBEC, APRIL 25-27, 1979

Secretary of State for External Affairs Don Jamieson today announced that Canada will be the site this week of the 32nd session of the Conference of Ministers of Education of French-speaking Countries (CONFEMEN).

Organized by the Government of Quebec, the Conference of Ministers of Education will take place in Quebec City from April 25 to 27, and will be preceded by a meeting of experts of the African and Malagasyan Council of Higher Education (CAMES).

The major purpose of the Conference of Ministers of Education of French-speaking Countries is to promote the adjustment of systems and methods of education to the changing conditions of the modern world and to the economic and social development needs of member countries. The agenda of the 32nd session includes the theme "School and Life" as well as questions such as the production of pedagogical material and pedagogical research and innovations. This conference and the Conference of Ministers of Youth and Sport of French-speaking Countries (CONFESJES) together with the Agency for Cultural and Technical Co-operation (ACCT) constitute the inter-governmental institutions of "la Francophonie internationale".

Canada has participated in these conferences since 1969. They have been held annually in one of the member states.

Interested provincial governments play a major role in these conferences. The Canadian delegation is usually led by a provincial minister and includes representatives of provinces concerned and various advisers from federal and provincial governments.