

# News Release

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## OUELLET TO TOUR WEST AFRICA

Foreign Affairs Minister André Ouellet today announced that he will make a series of visits in West Africa beginning this Sunday.

The Minister will visit Mali on November 26 and 27, Côte d'Ivoire on November 27, Ghana on November 27 and 28, and Cameroon on December 1. He will discuss with the Heads of State and Government and ministers of these countries prospects for bilateral co-operation, as well as the changing political and economic face of this region and of Africa as a whole. He will meet with Canadians working in these countries and visit projects supported by the Canadian International Development Agency.

"The purpose of the tour is to reaffirm Canada's commitments to Africa and to support current efforts towards democratization and economic reform. It will also be an opportunity to highlight the Canadian private sector's contribution to the region's development and to discuss the issues on the agenda of the Francophone Summit," said Mr. Ouellet.

The Minister will complete his tour by participating in the sixth Francophone Summit, which will take place from December 2 to 4 in Cotonou, Benin.

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For further information, media representatives may contact:

Media Relations Office  
Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade  
(613) 995-1874



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