

# PRESS RELEASE



# COMMUNIQUÉ

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

CANADA

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## NIAMEY CONFERENCE DELEGATION

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr. Mitchell Sharp, announces the composition of the Canadian delegation to the second Conference of Francophone countries to be held in Niamey, Niger, March 16-20.

This meeting follows the first Niamey Conference, which took place February 17-21, 1969. At that time, the principle was approved of establishing an Agency for Cultural and Technical Cooperation bringing together countries which were entirely or partially French speaking. Mr. Jean-Marc Léger of Montreal was named provisional Executive Secretary and, under the general direction of President Diiori Hamani of Niger, was charged with responsibility for drawing up the draft constitution for the Agency and a draft programme of activities which the Agency might undertake. Mr. Léger prepared these documents in consultation with the various countries concerned, including Canada.

The Chairman of the Canadian delegation will be Mr. Gérard Pelletier, Secretary of State. The Vice-Chairman is Mr. Julien Chouinard, Secretary General of the Government of Quebec and Clerk of the Cabinet. Representatives from the Ontario, New Brunswick and Manitoba governments are also members of the delegation, which includes advisers from the federal government and from the Government of Quebec. The delegation is made up as follows:

### DELEGATION OF CANADA

Mr. Gérard Pelletier

Secretary of State of  
Canada, and Chairman  
and head of delegation

Mr. Jean-Pierre Goyer

Parliamentary Secretary  
to the Secretary of State  
for External Affairs