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APPOINTMENT TO IDRC BOARD

The Right Honourable Joe Clark, Secretary of State for External Affairs, today announced the appointment of Dr. Umberto Colombo, an Italian physical chemist, to the Board of Governors of the International Development Research Centre (IDRC).

Dr. Colombo is currently President of the National Council for Research and Development in Nuclear and Alternative Energy at the European Nuclear Energy Agency (ENEA) in Rome. He was formerly Director-General of the Research and Development Division of Montedison in Milan and, since 1983, has served as Chairman of the United Nations Advisory Committee on Science and Technology for Development. He has also served on a number of other international scientific panels including the Committee for Science and Technology of the European Economic Community (EEC).

Dr. Colombo, who is 57, obtained his doctorate in physical chemistry from the University of Pavia in 1950, and carried out post-doctoral research at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in 1953-54. He is the author of more than 100 scientific papers and co-author or editor of 10 books, including Beyond the Age of Waste (1978) and Reducing Malnutrition in Developing Countries (1978).

IDRC is a corporation created by the Parliament of Canada in 1970 to stimulate and support scientific and technological research by the developing countries for their own benefit. By statute, the Centre is independent of the the Government of Canada but is answerable to Parliament. IDRC's policies are determined by its international Board of Governors.