

## Statements and Speeches

No. 74/1

MEXICO AND CANADA STRENGTHEN THEIR TIES

Joint communiqué of the second Canada-Mexico Ministerial Committee meeting issued January 30, 1974.

The second Canada/Mexico Ministerial Committee meeting took place January 28 to 29, 1974, in Mexico City.

The Canadian Ministers called on the President of Mexico, Lic. Luis Echeverria, with whom they had a wide exchange of views.

Both Mexican and Canadian Ministers noted with satisfaction the advances that had been achieved in the strengthening of relations between the two countries in the period since the first meeting of the Committee, which took place in Ottawa in October 1971. They particularly noted the state visit of the President of Mexico to Canada from March 29 to April 2, 1973, in the course of which the President and Prime Minister Trudeau agreed to take a series of concrete steps designed to provide an even greater impetus to Mexican-Canadian exchanges in various fields of common interest.

Mexican Ministers welcomed the increased participation of Canada in inter-American institutions, a question which had been examined during the first meeting of the Committee. They expressed their satisfaction that Canada has been admitted as a member of the Inter-American Development Bank and as permanent observer to the Organization of American States (OAS). The Mexican side expressed its hope that Canada would eventually become a full member of the OAS. The Mexican Minister of Foreign Relations outlined for the Canadian Ministers the steps being taken at present for the restructuring of the inter-American system with a view to making it more adequately correspond to the interests of its members. The Canadian side expressed its appreciation for Mexico's interest and stated that it would follow these developments and their implications for the Canadian position.

The Mexican and Canadian Ministers recalled that, during President Echeverria's visit to Ottawa, Prime Minister Trudeau had agreed that the preparation of a charter on the economic rights and duties of states was of major importance in the pursuit of international