

Scientific exchanges with Romania

Canada and Romania have signed a memorandum of understanding to extend agricultural and scientific exchanges between the two countries. The agreement was signed in Ottawa, October 8, by Agriculture Minister Eugene Whelan and Romania's Minister of State for Foreign Trade and International Economic Co-operation Alexandru Margaritescu.

The memorandum is an umbrella document covering such items as the exchange of scientists and specialists, plant and animal scientific information, industrial technology for the production and processing of animal husbandry products, plant genetic material and activities that may be added by mutual agreement.

It calls for the formation of a Canada-Romania joint committee on agricultural co-operation as a forum for consultation and information exchange. This committee will consist of government representatives from both countries.

The memorandum will help bring into direct contact Canadian and Romanian governmental and non-governmental agencies and enterprises, including research organizations and firms and businesses in the agricultural field.

Areas of co-operation already scheduled for 1980-81 include exchanges of information on growing and extracting oil from rapeseed, the raising of dairy cows and the production of grains on non-irrigated land.

Assistance to earthquake victims

Canadian dairy farmers are donating 5,000 cases of evaporated milk as part of relief efforts in the aftermath of earthquakes in El Asnam, Algeria, Agriculture Minister Eugene Whelan has announced.

The gift of evaporated milk has a market value of about \$100,000 and will be distributed by ONACO, the Algerian government agency responsible for the purchase and distribution of such dairy products.

In this type of emergency, when normal water supplies quickly become contaminated, Canadian evaporated milk is particularly well suited for relief purposes because of its high nutritive value as well as being in liquid form.

The product will be in 410 gram cans; each of the 5,000 cases contains 48 cans.

Canada/United States fisheries pacts amended



L. Storsater

Secretary of State for External Affairs Mark MacGuigan (right) and United States Ambassador to Canada Kenneth Curtis (left) sign two documents pertaining to fisheries, in Ottawa October 15. The documents ratified Canada-American agreements amending the Convention for the Protection, Preservation and Extension of the Sockeye Salmon Fisheries in the Fraser River System, and the Convention for the Protection, Preservation and Extension of the Halibut Fisheries of the Northern Pacific Ocean and the Bering Sea.

Canadian government supports disarmament

The Canadian government views its participation in disarmament and arms control negotiations as one of the most important aspects of its foreign policy, Secretary of State for External Affairs Mark MacGuigan said October 23 in a statement marking Disarmament Week.

The Minister said that Canadian priorities in the area of disarmament are:

- to encourage the continuation of the SALT process;
- to promote the realization of a comprehensive multilateral test ban treaty;
- to assist in the preparation of a chemical weapons convention;
- to promote the evolution of an effective non-proliferation regime based on the Non-Proliferation Treaty;
- to participate actively in negotiations to limit and reduce conventional forces; and
- to strive, step-by-step, to ultimately achieve general and complete disarmament, consistent with the legitimate security needs of states.

The Minister said that Canadian government initiatives in the field of disarmament

include the convening semi-annually of a consultative group of representatives of Canadian non-governmental organizations which have a special interest in disarmament and arms control. The Department of External Affairs encourages greater research and information programs through financial assistance from its disarmament fund. The department also produces a newsletter on national and international disarmament activities for distribution to interested parties, said Dr. MacGuigan. The Minister also said that he had proposed that an autonomous association for arms control and disarmament be created to help expand activity and raise the level of debate on these issues.

Disarmament Week is held annually from October 24-30. Initiated in 1978 after the United Nations Special Session on Disarmament, the week is intended to emphasize the importance of mobilizing public opinion world-wide in support of disarmament and to underline the objective of the Final Document arising from the special session.