



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
MINISTÈRE DES AFFAIRES EXTÉRIEURES

communiqué

No: 86
No.:

DIFFUSION: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
RELEASE: NOVEMBER 13, 1979

OFFICIAL VISIT OF MR. DANKOULODO DAN DICKO,
SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE
AGENCY FOR CULTURAL AND TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION (ACCT)

At the invitation of the Secretary of State for External Affairs, Flora MacDonald, Professor Dankoulodo Dan Dicko, Secretary General of the Agency for Cultural and Technical Co-operation (ACCT), is paying an official visit to Canada from November 12 to 17, 1979. During his stay, Mr. Dan Dicko will also have discussions with Martial Asselin, Minister of State for the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA). These discussions will be focussed chiefly on the next General Conference of the ACCT to be held from December 12 to 14 in Lomé, Togo. Mr. Dan Dicko will visit Quebec City and Fredericton where he will have talks with the governmental authorities of Quebec and New Brunswick which have participating government status in the ACCT.

In Ottawa, Mr. Dan Dicko will take part in the Fourth Meeting of the Special Development Programme Committee of the ACCT to be held on November 13 and 14, 1979. This meeting, which is bringing together representatives of nine member countries, including two at a ministerial level (Mr. François Kouyami, current President of the Council of Administration of the ACCT and Minister of Culture and Sports for Benin; and Mr. Marc Mba Ndong, Minister of Culture and the Arts, in charge of Popular Education for Gabon) will be chaired by Martial Asselin.

The Special Development Programme (PSD) which is the counterpart in La Francophonie of the Commonwealth Fund for Technical Co-operation, was set up in December 1977 on Canada's initiative, and is supported essentially by the voluntary contributions of the member states. Since the inception of the programme, Canada has provided \$2 million and Quebec's contribution has been \$100,000. Some sixteen countries contribute to this significant multilateral programme which is a most appropriate instrument of co-operation in technical assistance between the member countries of the ACCT.