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EUROPEAN POLITICAL COOPERATION CONSULTATIONS

PARIS, MAY 19, 1988

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Right Honourable Joe Clark, announces that he held consultations today in Paris with the Foreign Minister of the Federal Republic of Germany, Mr. Hans-Dietrich Genscher, also in his capacity as the President of European Political Cooperation (EPC).

The twelve member states of the European Community (EC) endeavour jointly to formulate and implement a European foreign policy under the EPC process. This has increasingly become the EC's political counterpart to economic integration.

The new and flexible mechanism of consultations calls for bi-annual discussions between the Secretary of State for External Affairs and the EPC Presidency. The dialogue will cover a wide range of international political issues of mutual concern.

"The EPC consultations offer Canada a unique opportunity to exchange views with the Europeans on issues that are vital to the entire global community. They further intensify the bilateral political relations between Canada and each of the twelve member states of the EC", Mr. Clark noted.

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Secretary of State
for
External Affairs

Secrétaire d'État
aux
Affaires extérieures