

Republic of Guinea

Date of independence:	October 2, 1958
Capital:	Conakry
Population:	5,830,000 (1983)
Head of State and Head of Government:	His Excellency General Lansana Conté
Economy:	Mixed; economy controlled by large state-owned corporations.

Canada/Guinea Relations: Relations between Canada and Guinea have developed over the years. These ties grew stronger as former President Sekou Touré's mistrust of the West eased. CIDA's assistance program has expanded and its activities are now concentrated in civil aviation, electric power, institutional support, human resources development and fisheries. CIDA also provides financial assistance to non-governmental organizations operating in Guinea. Commercial relations between our two countries are minimal, aside from Alcan's involvement in mining bauxite deposits in Guinea.

His Excellency General Lansana Conté: Born in 1934 in Coyah. Attended the Bingerville military preparatory school in the Ivory Coast and the Saint-Louis military school in Senegal. Enlisted on June 1, 1955. Former Army Chief of Staff. Became President of the Republic following a military takeover on April 3, 1984.