

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTÈRE DES AFFAIRES EXTÉRIEURES

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THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, DR. MARK MACGUIGAN, TO ATTEND MEETING OF FOREIGN MINISTERS

NASSAU, JULY 11, 1981

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, Dr. Mark MacGuigan, announced today that he will meet with the U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig, the Foreign Minister of Mexico Jorge Castenada de la Rosa and the Foreign Minister of Venezuela José Zambrano Velasco in Nassau on July 11 to discuss a co-operative approach to addressing the economic development of the Carribean Basin area.

Canada, for its part, is positively disposed to co-operating with other states in the economic development of the area and in fact has already taken a forward position in this regard. In January 1981, Dr. MacGuigan announced in Kingston, Jamaica, a wide-ranging and comprehensive action plan designed to help the states of the Commonwealth Caribbean cope with their economic difficulties and, at the same time, to intensify and deepen Canada's ties with the region.

Dr. MacGuigan referred to his recent speech during the House of Commons' Debate on Foreign Policy, on June 16, in which he stated that Canada "will examine, for example, the invitation of the United States to work together to promote economic development of the Caribbean and Central American region. For our part, this task is well in hand in the Commonwealth Caribbean, and we expect that our major emphasis will continue to be on these islands."