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Denis Paradis, Secretary of State (Latin America and Africa) (Francophonie), will visit Paris, France, and Brussels, Belgium, from February 11 to 14, as the official representative of the Government of Canada to La Francophonie.

During this visit, which is taking place at the beginning of his term of office, Mr. Paradis will hold discussions with his principal counterparts in the international Francophonie. In Paris, he will meet the Secretary-General of the International Organization of the Francophonie, Boutros Boutros-Ghali, the chief executive of the Intergovernmental Agency of the Francophonie, Roger Dehaybe, and the French Minister Delegate for Coopération and the Francophonie, Charles Josselin. Mr. Paradis will end the first part of his visit by participating in the launch of Zacharias Kunut's *Atanarjuat—The Fast Runner*, which is based on an Inuit legend and is Canada's first feature-length fiction film written, produced, directed and acted in Inuktitut.

In Brussels, the Secretary of State will hold talks with the Minister-President of the Government of the French Community of Belgium, Hervé Hasquin, and Annemie Neyts, Minister Associate to the Minister of Foreign Affairs.

For further information on La Francophonie, visit the Department's Web site at:
<http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/foreignp/francophonie/menu-e.htm>

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