

PRESS RELEASE



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The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Howard Green, announced today that the Canadian Government has established diplomatic relations with the Central African Republic.

Mr. Fulgence Charpentier, Canadian Ambassador to the Federal Republic of Cameroun, has been appointed Canadian Ambassador to the Central African Republic. Mr. Charpentier, who is concurrently Ambassador to Chad, Gabon and Congo (Brazzaville), will discharge his responsibilities in the Central African Republic by means of periodic visits to the capital, Bangui.

The new appointment is part of the programme announced earlier this year to strengthen Canada's ties with French-speaking countries of Africa through the expansion of diplomatic representation. With the establishment of relations between Canada and these former French African colonies which are now grouped in what is known as the Union of African and Malagasy States, there will be increased opportunities for mutually beneficial contacts in the political, commercial and cultural fields between Canada and the nations of Africa.