

Republic of Chad

Date of Independence:	August 11, 1960
Capital:	N'Djamena
Population:	4,747,000 (1983)
Head of State and Head of Government	His Excellency Hissein Habré
Economy:	Economy based on agriculture and livestock raising. Exports of cotton, meat and cattle.

Canada/Chad Relations: Canada has had diplomatic ties with Chad since 1962 and the countries have friendly relations through the institutions of La Francophonie. Approximately seventy-five Canadian missionaries and NGO co-operants are currently engaged in development work in Chad, a victim of the persistent drought that has ravaged the Sahel countries in recent years. To help Chad cope with its difficulties, Canada has provided food aid and emergency relief. Chad's Minister of Foreign Affairs and Co-operation made two visits to Canada in 1985.

His Excellency Hissein Habré: Born in 1942, in Fada, in the prefecture of Borkou-Ennedi-Tibesti, he was sub-prefect of this region of northern Chad from 1958 to 1964. He studied law and economics in France and in 1972 joined the banned National Liberation Front (FROLINAT). He later became head of the Command Council of the Northern Armed Forces. During the period of the civil war from 1978 to 1982, he held the positions of Prime Minister and Minister of State for National Defence for short periods of time. On October 19, 1982, Hissein Habré was appointed President of the Republic, Head of State and President of the Council of Ministers.