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UNESCO DIRECTOR-GENERAL TO PAY

AN OFFICIAL VISIT TO CANADA

The Honourable Monique Landry, Minister for External Relations and International Development, today announced that Mr. Federico Mayor, Director-General of UNESCO (the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) will pay an official visit to Canada from April 2 to 5, 1990.

Mr. Mayor will visit Quebec City, Toronto and Ottawa, where he will publicize UNESCO programs concerning world cultural heritage, education and literacy. He will also take part in the inauguration of a Biosphere Reserve on the Niagara Escarpment, and will discuss the Organization's environmental protection programs. Mr. Mayor also plans to meet with scientists and communications specialists working in these two areas of major importance to UNESCO member states.

The Director-General will visit Quebec City on April 3 for talks with Premier Robert Bourassa and other Quebec Government ministers. This will allow him to see the city recently named a world cultural heritage site. He will also inaugurate an exhibition and visit UNESCO's liaison office for Canada, opened last year. In Toronto the next day, he will be Premier David Peterson's guest of honour at the ceremony inaugurating the Niagara Escarpment as Canada's sixth Biosphere Reserve.

Mr. Mayor will meet with Mrs. Landry in Ottawa on Tuesday, April 5. The Minister has indicated that they will examine UNESCO reform and program orientation proposals in anticipation of the next session of the Executive Board, scheduled for May in Paris. Canada has been a member of this board since last November.

During his visit to Ottawa, Mr. Mayor will also meet with the Honourable Gerry Weiner, Secretary of State and Minister of State for Multiculturalism and Citizenship. In addition, he will address the annual General Assembly of the Canadian Commission for UNESCO.