

The Department of External Affairs announced today that Dr. Manuel Perez-Guerrero, Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) arrives in Ottawa Wednesday, December 9 on his first official visit to Canada since his appointment as executive head of UNCTAD in March 1969.

While in Ottawa over the next two days, the Secretary-General will meet with the Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Mitchell Sharp; the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce, the Honourable Jean-Luc Pepin; and senior officials in several government departments. Dr. Perez-Guerrero will also appear before the Parliamentary Sub-Committee on International Assistance of the Standing Committee on External Affairs and National Defence at 3:30 p.m. on December 10.

The UNCTAD Secretary-General will be accompanied by Mr. Sidney Dell, Director of UNCTAD's New York office.

UNCTAD was established in December 1964 as a permanent organ of the United Nations General Assembly. The first conference met at Geneva in 1964 and a second session was held in New Delhi in 1968. The third conference is likely to be held early in 1972. Between sessions of the conference, its functions are carried out by the Trade and Development Board, and a series of subsidiary committees covering the various areas of UNCTAD's work. UNCTAD's principal aims are to promote international trade with a view to accelerating the economic growth of developing countries, to formulate principles and policies on international trade and related problems of economic development, and to make proposals for putting such principles and policies into effect.