

During this period of consultation and preparation it is expected that Mr. Rafael Salas, who is Executive Director of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities and has responsibility for the World Population Year, and Mr. Carrillo Flores, former Foreign Minister of Mexico, who has been designated by the United Nations as Secretary General of the World Population Conference will visit Canada on February 21 and 22 and April 1 and 2 respectively.

A fundamental objective of World Population Year is to stimulate and support constructive planning by national governments in connection with the comprehensive range of population issues which appear on the agenda for the Conference in Bucharest. In the case of Canada a number of significant projects in this field are under way. One of these, announced by the Minister of Manpower and Immigration last autumn, is the review of immigration policy and population issues, which will examine immigration in the framework of Canada's demographic economic and cultural objectives. The consultations to precede the Bucharest Conference, as well as the results of the Conference itself, will contribute to the process of public discussion within Canada which the Government considers an essential aspect of the immigration and population review.

At the same time, domestic population considerations cannot be seen in isolation. A major purpose of the Bucharest Conference will be to focus on the international dimensions of population questions and the development of coordinated international efforts in the field of population.

The Department of External Affairs has responsibility for coordinating Canada's preparations for the participation in the World Population Conference. An ad hoc Interdepartmental Committee on Population, composed of all departments and agencies of the Federal Government concerned with population questions and chaired by the Department of External Affairs, will continue in its advisory capacity.