



CANADA

PRESS RELEASE

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

OTTAWA - CANADA

No. 30

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
WEDNESDAY, MAY 3, 1961.

Unesco Educational Conference of African States
Addis Ababa, May 15-25, 1961 - Canadian Attendance

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Howard Green, announced today that Mr. Emilien Morissette, Member of Parliament for Rimouski, Quebec, will represent the Canadian Government at a Conference of African States on the Development of Education in Africa which will be held in Addis Ababa from May 15-25, 1961. This Conference is being organized by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (Unesco) with a view to establishing an inventory of the educational needs of the African states and a programme to meet those needs in the coming years. The Canadian Representative will attend the Conference in the capacity of observer.

The decision to attend the Conference at Addis Ababa is related to the establishment of a Canadian programme of educational assistance to the newly independent French-speaking states of Africa which was announced in the House of Commons by Mr. Green on April 24. While at Addis Ababa Mr. Morissette will obtain information on the educational problems of the area which will be helpful in the development and execution of the Canadian programme. As the Government hopes to draw upon the advice and experience of Unesco in setting up and operating the new scheme, Canadian attendance at the Conference will provide an opportunity not only to consult with officials of African Governments present but also with senior officials of the Unesco Secretariat.

Mr. Morissette was first elected to the House of Commons in March 1958. He was a member of the Canadian Delegation to the Tenth Session of the General Conference of Unesco held at Paris in 1958 and also Parliamentary Observer with the Canadian Delegation at the Fifteenth Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations in the autumn of 1960.