

He also went to James Bay and toured the site of the hydro-electric project there. In Quebec City, Mr. Mayila had discussions with Mr. Yves Bérubé, Minister of Energy and Resources, and with senior officials of the Department of Intergovernment Affairs, the INRS (Institut national des recherches scientifiques) and the SOQUIP (Société québécoise d'initiatives pétrolières).

Mr. Mayila's visit provided an opportunity for the two sides to acknowledge the particularly warm and friendly relations between Gabon and Canada. The talks were conducted in a cordial and co-operative spirit, underlining a similarity of views on a wide variety of subjects.

Mr. Mayila and the Head of the Canadian Government expressed satisfaction with the constructive development of our bilateral relations. On behalf of the President of the Gabonese Republic, Mr. Mayila paid tribute to the Canadian Government and people for their interest in Gabon.

The visit provided an opportunity for the two sides to discuss in depth a number of trade matters, in such fields as rural electrification, transportation and agriculture. The Export Development Corporation indicated its interest in considering medium and long-term credit facilities for funding projects of Canadian exporters who have identified spheres of action in which their expertise could be used in the development of Gabon. The possibility of providing a revolving line of credit to fund initiatives of small and medium-sized Gabonese businesses that wish to purchase equipment and machinery from Canada was also considered. In this connection, there will be a technical mission to Gabon from the Export Development Corporation in early 1981.

With regard to co-operation between the two countries, Canada announced its decision to encourage Canadian institutions to undertake development projects in Gabon, by means of a financial complement within the framework of institutional co-operation. In addition, within the framework of the Canadian International Development Agency's Industrial Co-operation Programme, a Canadian financial complement will be provided to Canadian businessmen who wish to locate in Gabon. In this context, the Canadian Government is also giving financial support to the World University Service of Canada in its efforts to recruit Canadian teachers. The Canadian authorities are also prepared to assist in the reorientation of the Middle School of Commerce in Port Gentil as well as in the Vocational Training Centre project in Oloumi and the regional hospital centre projects which will be assigned to Canadian institutions. Furthermore, Canada is prepared to make available to the Gabonese authorities two technical advisers.