

CANADIAN DELEGATION TO THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY
(SIXTEENTH SESSION)

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PRESS RELEASE NO. 16
November 28, 1961.

ELECTIONS TO THE INTERNATIONAL LAW COMMISSION

MARCEL CADIEUX, Deputy Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs and Legal Adviser to the Department of External Affairs has been elected to membership of the International Law Commission by the General Assembly of the United Nations. At an election in which 42 candidates were competing for the 25 seats of the Commission Mr. Cadieux received 89 votes out of the 103^{ballots}/cast by the General Assembly. He had been nominated to the position by Canada, Australia and Britain.

This is the first time that Canada is represented on the International Law Commission. The Commission limits its membership to one member of any nationality, with the objective of thus having a wide representation of the main forms of civilization and of the legal systems of the world.

The International Law Commission was formed in 1947 by a resolution of the United Nations General Assembly and has as its "object the promotion of the progressive development of international law and its codification". The Commission, as one of the major bodies engaged in this work, has been fulfilling its task by surveying the field of international law, and translating these into articles of draft conventions. In this way, for instance, many of the rules that have been developed over the centuries on the Law of the Sea or on Diplomatic Immunities have been drafted in a much more specific form than that in which they were previously to be found. In this form, these rules have been discussed and adopted respectively by the conferences that have taken place on the Law of