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SEVENTH ANNUAL CANADA-NIGER CONSULTATION APRIL 22 - 24, 1981

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, Dr. Mark MacGuigan, announced today that the Minister of Planning of the Republic of Niger, Brah Mahamane, will arrive in Canada on April 21, 1981, heading a delegation from Niger of eight senior officials who will take part in the seventh consultation between Canada and Niger from April 22 to 24, 1981.

This consultation on co-operation between Niger and Canada will be held at the headquarters of the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), and will be chaired officially by Brah Mahamane and Pierre De Bané, Minister of Regional Economic Expansion and Adviser to the Secretary of State for External Affairs on Francophone Affairs.

The discussions will provide an opportunity for the participants from Niger and those from Canada to assess progress in bilateral co-operation and to consider fields for Canada's future activity in Niger, chiefly energy, rural development, transportation and communications as well as occupational training. It is also planned that the participants from Niger will meet their Canadian counterparts in the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce as well as in the Department of Energy, Mines and Resources.

At the conclusion of the consultation, the members of the Niger delegation plan to go to Montreal on April 25 and 26 to visit the Salon de la Femme and view the activities sponsored by Niger at the CIDA stand. The delegation will leave Canada on April 26.