APPENDIX GUIDE FOR ENTERTAINING AT HOME WHILE ON POSTING

This document offers general guidelines for formal entertaining. More detailed information may be obtained from the Office of Protocol of External Affairs and International Trade Canada in Ottawa.

(A) DRESS

The decision as to the guests' dress rests with the host. If the invitation contains no indication in this regard, lounge suit is assumed to be appropriate. In the case of a dinner or a reception given after 6:00 pm, however, this omission may lead to confusion. It is preferable, therefore, always to indicate the desired dress.

The following is a description of the types of dress most commonly worn in diplomatic, business and social circles.

(B) LOUNGE SUIT

Usually indicated for receptions held after 6:00 pm, but may also be worn for luncheons and representational activities in the afternoon.

Gentlemen

- Suit and tie. The more important the ceremony, the darker the suit.

Ladies

- For luncheons and afternoon activities, afternoon dress or suit.
- For activities after 6:00 pm, cocktail dress or blouse and skirt.
- Gloves are optional. If they are worn, the right one should be removed before entering the receiving line. Both gloves should be removed for eating or drinking.

(C) FORMAL WEAR

1. Morning Coat

Indicated for official receptions during the day, for example, at national funerals, at a wedding, a coronation or for the presentation of credentials.

Gentlemen

- This is a black garment with tails open to the knee, which is worn with grey striped trousers, black socks and shoes, a grey or black waistcoat, a grey silk tie, a grey or black top hat and grey gloves. The shirt must be white; the collar may be soft or starched with the points turned down (in which case an ascot may be worn).

Ladies

- Afternoon dress and gloves