



PRESS RELEASE

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
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The Department of External Affairs announced today that the Governments of Canada and Egypt have agreed to an early exchange of diplomatic representatives. A Canadian Embassy will be established in Cairo during the coming autumn and the Egyptian Government has intimated that before the end of the present year it will open an Embassy in Ottawa. Since 1949 Egypt has been represented in Ottawa by a Consul General.

As Canada has had no previous diplomatic representation in the Arab world, the decision to exchange ambassadors with Egypt helps to fill a need long felt by the Canadian Government and is expected to have the effect of strengthening the friendly relations existing between the governments and peoples of Canada and Egypt which have already been promoted through common membership in the United Nations and the specialized agencies.

It is anticipated that this step will result in increased trade between Canada and Egypt. In accordance with the usual practice, upon the opening of the new diplomatic mission the Canadian Government Trade Commissioner in Cairo will become Commercial Secretary of the Embassy.
