

PRESS RELEASE



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The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Paul Martin, announced today that Mr. Dana Wilgress, a distinguished Canadian diplomat and economist, has been appointed the permanent head of the Canadian Delegation to the forthcoming United Nations Conference on Trade and Development. At the Conference, Mr. Wilgress will be assisted by officials from the Departments of External Affairs, Finance and Trade and Commerce. Mr. Wilgress will also head the Canadian Delegation to the Preparatory Committee meetings which commence in New York on February 3.

The holding of a United Nations Conference on Trade and Development was decided by the 1962 session of the General Assembly. The Conference will take place in Geneva from March 23 until June 15. The purpose of the Conference is to discuss international trade problems as they relate to the economic growth of the developing countries. It is expected that all 113 member states of the United Nations will be sending delegations to the Conference. The Secretary-General of the Conference, Dr. Raul Prebisch, visited Ottawa in November to discuss the programme of the Conference with Ministers and officials.

It is anticipated that Ministers from all participating countries will attend the opening and closing sessions of the Conference. The name of the Canadian Minister attending these sessions will be announced at a later date.

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