

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Mitchell Sharp, is pleased to announce that Senator, the Honourable Paul Martin, has agreed to undertake a special mission to the Commonwealth Caribbean on behalf of the Government of Canada. The intention of the Government to send a mission to the region was transmitted to the Commonwealth Caribbean on June 23 by Prime Minister Trudeau in a message to the Caribbean Free Trade Association (CARIFTA) Council of Ministers meeting in Georgetown, Guyana. The message also expressed the willingness of the Canadian Government to extend for the calendar year 1970 the rebate to the region of the 29 cents per hundred pounds tariff collected by Canada on raw sugar imported from the Commonwealth Caribbean. The purpose of the mission is to consult with the various countries on the extension of the rebate, the introduction of a special \$5 million regional agricultural development fund and other matters of bilateral concern.

The timing of the mission and its schedule of visits will be the subject of consultation with the various governments concerned.