



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
MINISTÈRE DES AFFAIRES EXTÉRIEURES

communiqué

N^o: 115
No.:

DIFFUSION: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
RELEASE: NOVEMBER 26, 1981

FIRST MEETING OF CANADA-ZAIREAN BILATERAL COMMISSION NOVEMBER 23-25, 1981

The Honourable Mark MacGuigan, Secretary of State for External Affairs, announced today that Citizen Lengema Dulia Yubasa Makanga, Secretary of State for International Co-operation with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Co-operation of Zaire, paid an official visit to Canada from November 23 to 25, 1981 at the head of a large delegation on the occasion of the first meeting of the Canada-Zairean Bilateral Commission.

The Honourable Serge Joyal, Minister of State, headed the Canadian delegation to this meeting, which was held at the headquarters of the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) in Hull on November 23 and 24, 1981.

Citizen Lengema's visit to Canada provided an opportunity to examine the many aspects of Canada-Zairean relations in private discussions with the Honourable Serge Joyal and the Honourable Pierre De Bané, who was given a personal message from President Mobutu for Prime Minister Trudeau by Citizen Lengema. On November 24, Mr. De Bané hosted a dinner on behalf of the Canadian government in honour of Secretary of State Lengema and the Zairean delegation. The Secretary of State for International Co-operation of Zaire also met with Mr. Jacques Gignac, Deputy Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs.

These talks, which were held in an open, cordial atmosphere, were characterized by a considerable convergence of viewpoints between the two countries. Canadian and Zairean representatives alike expressed their desire to combine all their efforts in order to expand and further develop Canada-Zairean relations, both bilaterally and multilaterally.