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DEA/2925-B-40

*Note du secrétaire du Cabinet
pour le sous-secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures*
*Memorandum from Secretary to the Cabinet
to Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs*

Ottawa, April 29, 1947

RE PROCEDURE FOR OBTAINING GOVERNMENT APPROVAL
IN RELATION TO REPRESENTATION AT INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES
AND THE NEGOTIATION AND CONCLUSION OF INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS

The note enclosed with your memorandum to me of March 31st† has been examined in this department, and we are of the opinion that it sets out satisfactorily principles to govern normal procedure to be followed in submitting to the government matters relating to Canadian representation at international conferences and the negotiation and signature of international agreements.

As you say, it is desirable that the rules be flexible and I believe that as now agreed they will provide a reasonable working code. Obviously, in particular instances, we may have to deviate from them or modify them in certain respects.

I am attaching a retyped copy of the note as circulated to members of this department for their guidance. I would suggest that the same course be followed in External Affairs.

I am sending a copy of this memorandum and the enclosure to the Deputy Minister of Trade and Commerce.

A.D.P. H[EENEY]

[PIÈCE JOINTE/ENCLOSURE]

Note pour les membres du Bureau du Conseil privé
Note to Members of Privy Council Office

Ottawa, April 29, 1947

PROCEDURE FOR OBTAINING GOVERNMENT APPROVAL IN RELATION
TO REPRESENTATION AT INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES
AND THE NEGOTIATION AND CONCLUSION OF INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS

1. Nomination of delegates to represent Canada at important international conferences should be approved by the Cabinet. Nomination of advisers need not be referred to the Cabinet unless the Secretary of State for External Affairs considers that a question of interdepartmental balance is involved or that Cabinet approval is otherwise desirable.

2. Appointment of delegations does not require the sanction of an Order in Council except in cases of outstanding importance or where signing powers are required.