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THE CANADIAN DELEGATION TO THE SEVENTH SESSION OF THE LAW OF THE SEA CONFERENCE GENEVA, MARCH 28 - MAY 19, 1978

The Canadian Delegation to the Seventh Session of the Third United Nations Law of the Sea Conference, which will be held in Geneva between March 28 and May 19, 1978, will be headed by the Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Don Jamieson, with the assistance of the Honourable Ronald Basford, Minister of Justice and Attorney-General of Canada, and the Honourable Roméo LeBlanc, Minister of Fisheries and the Environment. Mr. J. Alan Beesley, Canada's High Commissioner to Australia, will act as Deputy Head of the Delegation.

The Seventh Session will represent a crucial step in preparing a new convention of the seas. Although the last session produced more results than the previous ones, many sensitive and contentious matters have still not been settled, and some major disagreements remain on the issue of the international seabed regime.

The Sixth Session, however, enabled discussions to take place on most of the unresolved issues and, in certain major areas, the Conference was closer than ever to reaching a consensus. These discussions resulted in the drafting of a new Informal Composite Negotiating Text. This document reflects Canada's objectives in several areas: the twelve-mile

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