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MEETING OF THE CONSULTATIVE GROUP ON DISARMAMENT AND ARMS CONTROL AFFAIRS

The Right Honourable Joe Clark, the Secretary of State for External Affairs, today announced the convening of the Consultative Group on Disarmament and Arms Control Affairs under the chairmanship of the Ambassador for Disarmament, Mr. Douglas Roche.

The Consultative Group, which brings together over 50 interested Canadians - private individuals, members of non-governmental organizations, peace associations and universities - is meeting at the Department of External Affairs November 9 and 10 to discuss ways in which Canada can use its influence in the nuclear age to help reverse the dangerous trends that threaten human existence.

The Consultative Group was created in 1979 to give effect to recommendations of the first United Nations Special Session on Disarmament in 1978. In addition to exchanging views with officials, members of the Group may, individually or collectively, give advice to the Department through the Ambassador for Disarmament.

The meeting of the Consultative Group demonstrates the interest, expressed in the November 5, 1984 Speech from the Throne, in making government "more understandable, more accessible and more sensitive".