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# news release

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## CONFERENCE ON THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF SMALL ISLAND DEVELOPING STATES

Foreign Affairs Minister André Ouellet announced today that the Parliamentary Secretary to the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of the Environment, Clifford Lincoln, MP, will lead the Canadian delegation at the high-level segment of the United Nations Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States in Bridgetown, Barbados, May 5-6. The Ambassador for the Environment, John Fraser, PC, QC, will lead the Canadian delegation from April 25 to May 4. The Conference opens April 25 and concludes May 6.

"I welcome the opportunity to lead the Canadian delegation to the Barbados Conference. Sustainable development requires international co-operation, and I am confident that this conference will result in the adoption of a practical and implementable program of action that responds to the particular environmental challenges faced by island states," Mr. Lincoln said.

Convened by the UN General Assembly as a follow-up to the June 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED), this conference is being held in recognition of the fact that small island developing states face unique environmental and developmental challenges. Many consider the conference to be the first major test of the international community's commitment to following up on UNCED.

The conference is expected to result in the endorsement of the Barbados Declaration, a document outlining key principles for the sustainable development of small island developing states and a detailed program of action setting out measures to be taken at the national, regional and international levels.

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