



# communiqué

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## VISIT OF THE HONOURABLE DUFF ROBLIN TO SOUTHERN AFRICA

The Secretary of State for External Affairs announced today that the Honourable Duff Roblin, Leader of the Government in the Senate, will head Canada's delegation to the Annual Meeting of the Southern African Development Coordination Conference (SADCC) in Harare, Zimbabwe, January 30-31, 1986.

SADCC was established by nine African states (Angola, Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Swaziland, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe) in Lusaka in 1980. The organization's primary goals are to reduce external dependence, particularly on South Africa, and foster regional integration. All the member states, except Tanzania and Malawi, are adjacent to South Africa and Namibia.

Canada has supported SADCC since its inception. The choice of Senator Roblin to lead the delegation reflects the importance Canada attaches to SADCC. Senator Roblin will reaffirm Canada's support for SADCC and our commitment to provide \$120 million dollars over the next five years to implement development projects identified by the organization.

Recent events have underlined the importance of regional cooperation. Support for SADCC reinforces Canada's policy of promoting peaceful change in Southern Africa - an end to apartheid and independence for Namibia.

Following the Conference, Senator Roblin will make a bilateral visit to Malawi from February 1-5. During his visit, Senator Roblin will meet with Malawi's leaders to review relations with Canada. Together with President Banda of Malawi he will also open the Natural Resources College, an integrated facility for the training of extension workers. Canadian development assistance funds were used to build the College and train several of its staff.