

PRESS RELEASE

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The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Paul Martin, will lead the Canadian Delegation to the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development which opens in Geneva, Switzerland, on March 23, and will attend the opening session of Ministers from the participating countries. It is expected that Mr. Martin will proceed to Geneva over the weekend of March 21-22 returning at the end of the week. The Permanent Head of the Canadian Delegation is Mr. L. Dana Wilgress.*

The Conference, which will continue until mid-June, is being convened by the United Nations to consider and seek solutions for the trade and development problems of the less developed countries of the world. All members of the United Nations and specialized agencies have been invited and it is estimated that some 1,500 participants and observers will attend. On March 23 the Conference will be opened formally by the United Nations Secretary General, U Thant. The Secretary of State for External Affairs will be among the speakers addressing the Conference the following day.

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* Mr. Wilgress' appointment was announced by the Secretary of State for External Affairs on January 31.