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PARLIAMENTARY GROUP ON HAITI

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Right Honourable Joe Clark, announced today that the Parliamentary Group created to examine the status of relations between Canada and Haiti will travel to Haiti from March 13 to March 18, 1988.

The group, established by Minister Clark on January 26, 1988, consists of representatives of each federal political parties. The delegation to Haiti will be headed by M. Jean-Guy Hudon, Parliamentary Secretary to the Secretary of State for External Affairs and member of Parliament for Beauharnois-Salaberry. It also includes Mr. Léo Duguay, Progressive Conservative member of Parliament from St. Boniface, Mr. André Harvey, Progressive Conservative member of Parliament for Chicoutimi, Mr. Howard McCurdy, New Democratic Party, member of Parliament for Windsor-Walkerville, Mr. André Ouellet, Liberal member of Parliament for Papineau.

Jean-Guy Hudon, chairman of the group, stated that the parliamentarians' visit to Haiti was in accordance with the group mandate to study and examine Canada's relations with Haiti. "We go to Haiti in order to listen, as we did in Montreal, to the various groups interested in submitting their views on the links Canada could maintain with Haiti in the best interests of the citizens of our two countries."

During their stay in Haiti, the Canadian parliamentarians will meet with members of the newly formed Haitian government, as well as with opposition leaders, churches, unions, business community, human rights organizations representatives. The group will also visit aid projects located in Port-au-Prince and in the countryside, and solicit views from aid beneficiaries, members of the Canadian community in Haiti, representatives of international organizations and diplomats from other countries.

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Secretary of State
for
External Affairs

Secrétaire d'État
aux
Affaires extérieures

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