

A Delegation of the Government of Senegal, headed by Mr. Ousmane Seck, Minister of Planning and Co-operation, paid an official visit to Ottawa from October 19 to 22, 1975, at the invitation of the Government of Canada. Meetings took place with the Departments of External Affairs and Industry, Trade and Commerce, the Canadian International Development Agency, the Export Development Corporation and the International Development Research Centre. These exchanges were concerned with political, cultural, economic and commercial relations between the two countries as well as with questions relevant to the French-speaking world.

Relations between the two countries were acknowledged to be excellent. It was equally recognized that the time has come to strengthen the consultation machinery of the "Francophonie" movement, and that this whole question of consultation could usefully be taken up at the next general conference of the Cultural and Technical Co-operation Agency (Agence de coopération culturelle et technique) which will take place in Mauritius next November.

The Senegalese Delegation and the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce decided to study ways and means of establishing commercial relations between the two countries. Such relations are now practically non-existent.

Most of the conversations were concerned with the activities of Canada in Senegal in the development assistance field. Among on-going projects, it was decided to facilitate access to the "Ecole polytechnique de Thies" (technical school) for nationals of other states in the region. The Senegalese Delegation and representatives of the Canadian International Development Agency took the occasion to review the implementation procedures for several projects recently approved by CIDA in the fields of forestry maintenance, cattle-breeding, coastal surveillance and fisheries development as well as a survey of ocean resources off the coast of Senegal.

The Canadian International Development Agency agreed to undertake a study of a number of new projects introduced by the Senegalese Delegation, the cost of which would amount to some \$30 million over a period of five years, having to do with expanded and integrated undertakings in the fields of agriculture and fisheries as well as with the provision of expertise and equipment in the industrial sector.