



# communiqué

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## THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE ELECTED PRESIDENT OF THE WORLD FOOD COUNCIL

The Honourable Allan J. MacEachen, Deputy Prime Minister and Secretary of State for External Affairs, announced today that his colleague, the Honourable Eugene F. Whelan, Minister of Agriculture, has been elected as President of the World Food Council at its Ninth Ministerial Session in New York, June 27 to 30.

Mr. Whelan will serve a two-year term beginning July 1, 1983.

The World Food Council was established in 1974 following the World Food Conference at which the Honourable Allan J. MacEachen led the Canadian delegation. The Council is composed of 36 members from all parts of the world represented usually by their Ministers of Agriculture, Food or Rural Development. The World Food Council plays a catalytic role, monitoring the world food situation, mobilizing support and acting as the coordinating mechanism for the food production, nutrition, food security, food trade, food aid and related policies of all agencies of the UN system.

Mr. Whelan has been associated with the World Food Council since its inception. He has attended every Ministerial Session except the 1979 session when he was not in Government. As President of the Council, Mr. Whelan intends to lend his authority to efforts to improve the food security situation of developing countries. He will especially concentrate on overcoming food production constraints in low-income food deficit countries, particularly in Africa where the problems are greatest.