



# communiqué

N<sup>o</sup>:  
No.: 47

DIFFUSION: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
RELEASE: MARCH 16, 1982

## VISIT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF ACTC

The Minister of External Relations, the Honourable Pierre De Bané, announced today that the newly-elected Secretary General of the Agency for Cultural and Technical Co-operation, Mr. François OWONO-NGUEMA, will pay an official visit to Canada from March 28 to April 3, 1982. In Ottawa, the Secretary General will be received by His Excellency the Governor General and will meet with the Prime Minister, the Right Honourable Pierre Elliott Trudeau. This visit, which falls at the end of the Agency's first decade and marks the beginning of the Secretary General's four-year term, will give him an opportunity to discuss in detail with Mr. De Bané future perspectives and organizational programmes. Mr. Owono-Nguema will also call on other members of the Cabinet as well as on the President of the Canadian International Development Agency. He will then visit New Brunswick on March 31 and Quebec on April 1 and 2 for talks with the governments of these provinces which have the status of participating governments in the Agency.

The Agency for Cultural and Technical Co-operation is a grouping of countries which use French as a common language. Its present membership includes thirty member states, six associate states and two participating governments. Its purpose is to promote the national languages and cultures of the participants and to increase cultural and technical co-operation among them. The Agency's programmes have been set up to achieve this objective; they focus on the promotion of national languages and cultures, the development of national cultures and modern educational techniques, scientific and technical co-operation contributing to the pooling of research adapted to the needs and resources of each country, and, finally, mobilization of populations for their economic and social development.