

MEDIA ADVISORY

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February 5, 2001

(9:30 a.m. EST)

No. 2

DUHAMEL TO VISIT CHAD

Media representatives are advised that Ron J. Duhamel, Minister of Veterans Affairs and Secretary of State (Western Economic Diversification) (Francophonie), will visit N'Djamena, Chad, on February 7 and 8, 2001.

Minister Duhamel will lead the Canadian delegation at the 15th Ministerial Conference of La Francophonie, an event over which he will also preside. The Conference, which takes place between the Moncton Summit of September 1999 and the Beirut Summit scheduled in October 2001, will allow participants to assess progress made to date and the work remaining for the implementation of the Action Plan adopted in Moncton. It will also allow participants to follow up on the outcome of an international symposium on the results of democratic practices, rights and liberties in Francophone communities, held in Bamako, Mali, in December 2000.

Participants at the Chad Conference will also review preparations for the Beirut Summit and, more pressingly, for the June 2001 Ministerial Conference on Culture, where dialogue on culture will help shape the Beirut Summit discussions.

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For further information, media representatives may contact:

Jean-Pierre Morin
Office of the Minister of Veterans Affairs and Secretary of State (Western Economic Diversification) (Francophonie)
(613) 944-1291

Media Relations Office
Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade
(613) 995-1874

