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APPOINTMENT OF PIERRE DESROCHES AS NETWORK HEAD, FRANCOPHONE SUMMIT FOLLOW-UP COMMITTEE

External Relations Minister Monique Landry and Communications Minister Flora MacDonald announced the appointment today of Pierre DesRoches to the position of Network Head, cultural and communications industries, with the Francophone Summit's Follow-Up Committee.

The Canadian Broadcasting Corporation is making the services of Mr. DesRoches available to the Government of Canada for a temporary period to work with the Paris-based Summit Follow-Up Committee. Mr. Desroches is Vice-President of the CBC's French Television Network.

During the Francophone Summit held in Paris in February, the participating Heads of State and Government agreed to undertake concrete action in the following strategic areas: development (agriculture and energy), cultural and communications industries, language industries, and scientific information and technological development, including research.

The establishment of these four areas or networks for carrying out Summit decisions will assist the Follow-Up Committee in choosing action programs and in entrusting their implementation to existing francophone organizations or bodies having expertise and knowledge in a particular area. The networks will also allow the Committee to oversee activities and provide progress reports.

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