

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTÈRE DES AFFAIRES EXTÉRIEURES

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MINISTERIAL MEETING OF THE NORTH ATLANTIC COUNCIL

The Right Honourable Joe Clark, Secretary of State for External Affairs, announced today that he will head the Canadian Delegation to the Autumn Ministerial Meeting of the North Atlantic Council in Brussels on December 11-12, 1986.

Discussions at the Ministerial Meeting are expected to focus on recent developments in East/West relations, including the Alliance approach to arms control and disarmament issues. The Ministers will also be receiving the report of the NATO High Level Task Force. This Task Force was set up at the last Ministerial Meeting, held in Halifax in May, 1986, to examine the possibilities for conventional arms control negotiations.

The opening ceremonies of the Ministerial Meeting will be addressed by the Secretary General of NATO, Lord Carrington, and by the honourary President of the Council, Mr. Giulio Andreotti, Foreign Minister of Italy. The meeting will mark the thirtieth anniversary of the Report of the "Three Wise Men" (one of whom was former Canadian Prime Minister Lester B. Pearson) on Non-Military Co-operation Within the Alliance. This anniversary is of particular significance to Canada, which has played a noteworthy role in developing closer political and other non-military forms of co-operation among the Allies.

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