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PIERRE DE BANÉ TO VISIT GUINEA AND GABON

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, Dr. Mark MacGuigan, announced today that the Honourable Pierre De Bané, Minister of Regional Economic Expansion and Adviser to Dr. MacGuigan on Francophone Affairs, will pay an official visit to Guinea and Gabon from June 5 to 12.

Mr. De Bané will lead a delegation consisting of representatives of the Department of External Affairs, the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce, the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), and the Department of Regional Economic Expansion. He will stay in Guinea from June 5 to 8 and will hold talks with President Sékou Touré and senior ministers of the Guinean government to examine ways of strengthening and broadening co-operation between Canada and Guinea at both the bilateral and multilateral levels.

The visit to Gabon will be marked by the meeting from June 10 to 12 of the Canada-Gabon Bilateral Commission, created in October 1980 during the official visit to Canada of Louis Gaston Mayila, Secretary-General of the Government of Gabon. Mr. De Bané will head the Canadian delegation at the meeting of this commission, which is responsible for analysing the various aspects of co-operation between the two countries and establishing means of implementing them. He will also meet with President Omar Bongo and various members of his government.