PRESS RELEASE

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
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The Department of External Affairs announced today that His Excellency Afranio de Mello Franco presented to His Excellency the Governor General his Letter of Credence as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Brazil to Canada. The ceremony took place at Government House.

The Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr. Jules Léger, was in attendance on the Governor General on this occasion. The Chief of Protocol, Mr. E. D'Arcy McGreer, presented the Ambassador to the Governor General. The Ambassador was accompanied by Mr. Mario Calabria, Second Secretary of the Embassy. Mr. Lionel Massey, Secretary to the Governor General, was also present.

Mr. Mello Franco was born in 1901. He is a career diplomat, having joined the Brazilian Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1924. He has served in Montevideo, Berne, London, Paris, Santiago, Buenos Aires and Washington, and before his appointment to Canada, was Ambassador to Costa Rica. He has also represented his country at a number of international conferences and has held various posts in the Brazilian Foreign Ministry.

Mr. Mello Franco is married.