



news release

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CANADIAN AS SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE INTERNATIONAL MARITIME ORGANIZATION

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Right Honourable Joe Clark, and the Honourable Benoit Bouchard, Minister of Transport, today welcomed the recommendation by the Council of the International Maritime Organization (I.M.O.) to appoint William A. O'Neil as Secretary General of the Organization.

Once approved by the IMO Assembly in November, Mr. O'Neil will become the sixth Secretary General of the London-based world shipping organization replacing Mr. Srivastava of India who occupied this position since 1974. Mr. O'Neil, whose election the Canadian Government has fully supported, will take office in January 1990.

"I am very pleased that the IMO Council has recommended that the position of Secretary General of the IMO be assumed by a Canadian, especially in view of the particular importance that IMO accords to marine environment protection", said Mr. Clark. Moreover, he added, "since no Canadian has headed a United Nations specialized agency for over forty years, Mr. O'Neil's selection by the 32-member council is a special honour for Canada and a proud moment for all Canadians."

.../2