

Canada Reports

Ottawa
Canada

Volume 2, No. 7
April 2, 1986



1986 World Exposition -
Vancouver, BC
May 2 - October 13

French leaders seek closer ties, 1

Canada-US trade grows in 1985, 3

International trade fairs: home products,
Europe, forest machinery, 4-5

EXPO 86 news and events: SkyTrain,
stamps, 6

Commonwealth Day marked, 6

Aid to Philippines and Haiti, 7

Decorative Nova Scotia folk art on tour, 7

Trade update, 8

News briefs, 8

Governor general in London, 8

Trade fairs are an important arena for Canadian exporters to display their products and many firms participate regularly at international shows. Some of the fairs where Canada will have a national stand in April are outlined in articles on pages 4 and 5. Also, as the official opening of EXPO 86 is only one month away, beginning in this issue and continuing until the end of the exposition, "EXPO 86 news and events" will become a more frequent feature.

External Information Services Division



External Affairs
Canada

Affaires extérieures
Canada

French leaders seek closer ties

At the first Francophone Summit, held in Paris February 17-19 to increase international co-operation and communication among French-speaking nations, Prime Minister Brian Mulroney said that for Canada, *la francophonie* "is more than being pro-French and defending linguistic purity: fundamentally it is the sharing of our existence and of our possibilities for growth". He suggested that "the collective development of *la francophonie* lies in the intensification and modernization of our functional co-operation".

The summit was attended by the heads of state and government leaders representing 41 countries where French is spoken. Two provincial premiers, Robert Bourassa of Quebec, where French is spoken by the majority of people, and Richard Hatfield of New Brunswick, an officially bilingual province, attended as representatives of participating governments. Delegates from the provinces of Ontario and Manitoba as well as Minister for External Relations Monique Vézina, Communications Minister Marcel Masse, Secretary of State of Canada Benoit Bouchard and others attended as repre-

sentatives of the Canadian delegation.

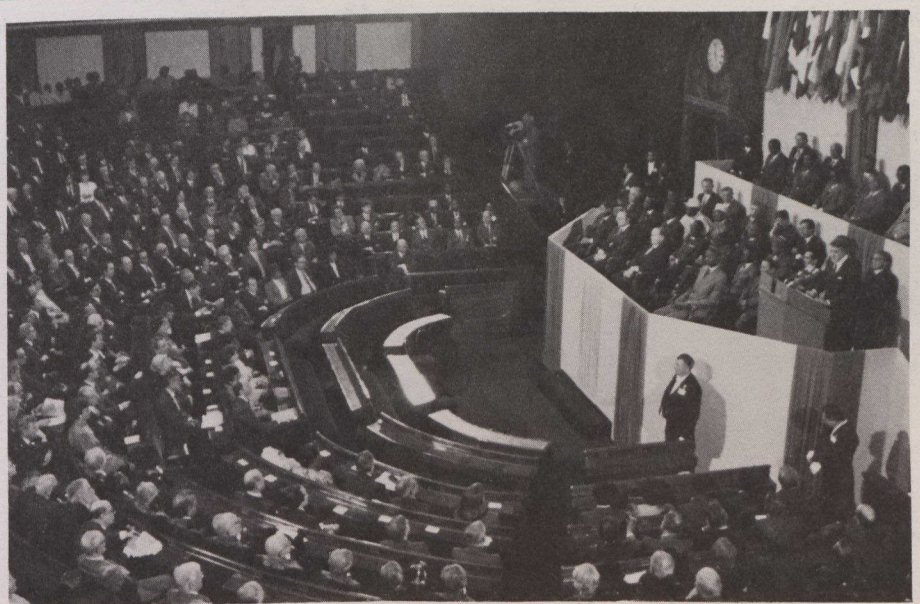
Prior to the summit, Mr. Mulroney met with a number of heads of state including President Abdou Diouf of Senegal and President Félix Houphouët-Boigny of the Ivory Coast.

Importance to Canada

Mr. Mulroney was one of six government leaders to speak at the opening ceremonies at the summit. He welcomed the active participation by both provincial premiers and said that Canada's commitment to *la francophonie* "meets a fundamental requirement of our national life". Through it "the entire breadth and depth of the French-speaking community is offered to the francophones of Quebec and the other provinces".

The prime minister stressed that Canada's role was important to all Canadians. He said that the country's concerns were broad and involved the political, economic, social, technical and cultural components of the francophone world.

Mr. Mulroney also maintained that co-operation between the countries of the North and South must increase and that French



Prime Minister Brian Mulroney addresses the Francophone Summit in Paris.

PMO