



PRESS RELEASE

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
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The Department of External Affairs announced today that during the past week discussions on the Colombo Plan had taken place in Ottawa between representatives of the Government of Pakistan and Canadian officials. The Pakistan Government was represented by their High Commissioner in Ottawa, by Mr. Said Hasan, Secretary to the Government of Pakistan in the Ministry of Economic Affairs, and by Mr. Amjad Ali, Adviser and formerly Minister for Economic Affairs at the Pakistan Embassy in Washington.

General agreement was reached by the officials of the two countries on the principles which might guide and govern the economic aid to be supplied by Canada to Pakistan. These principles will now be laid before the two governments for consideration.

Preliminary consideration was given to a number of specific projects with which Canadian aid to Pakistan might be associated. These projects related to the provision of hydro-electric power, the extension of irrigation and other aid to agriculture, the encouragement of industrial projects to employ recent immigrants into Pakistan and the creation of housing for them.

Further discussions are expected to take place in a few weeks time. Meanwhile, the Pakistani officials will provide detailed information on some of the projects and the Canadian officials will explore the financial implications of the projects and the availability of materials and facilities that would be required in Canada to carry them forward.
