

CONVENED TO EXAMINE DOCUMENTS WHICH ONLY SOVEREIGN STATES CAN ADOPT. ALTHOUGH THIS IS A CONFERENCE AT THE LEVEL OF COUNTRIES, THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA INVITED THE QUEBEC GOVERNMENT TO PARTICIPATE THROUGH REPRESENTATION ON THE CANADIAN DELEGATION.

IN THE CIRCUMSTANCES, QUEBEC'S PRESENCE THEREFORE FALLS WITHIN A DEFINITE FRAMEWORK WHICH IS DETERMINED BY THE PURPOSES OF THE CONFERENCE AND BY THE CONVENTION WHICH IT IS TO ADOPT. MOREOVER, THE ARRANGEMENTS CONFORM IN EVERY RESPECT TO RECOGNIZED INTERNATIONAL PRACTICE. THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT IS NEVERTHELESS ANXIOUS TO ENSURE THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF QUEBEC HAS ITS PROPER ROLE AND PLACE WITHIN THIS FRAMEWORK. IN THIS SPIRIT, THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA IS CONVINCED THAT CANADA MUST BE REPRESENTED AT THE FORTHCOMING NIAMEY CONFERENCE IN ORDER TO MAKE THE IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTION EXPECTED OF IT, IN CONFORMITY WITH ITS FRANCOPHONE POLICY. IT IS EQUALLY HOPED THAT A SIZEABLE REPRESENTATION FROM THE QUEBEC GOVERNMENT WILL ALSO BE ABLE TO MAKE, WITHIN THE DELEGATION, AN ORIGINAL, USEFUL AND RECOGNIZABLE CONTRIBUTION TO THE WORK OF THE CONFERENCE.

IT IS FOR THIS REASON THAT WE SUGGESTED TO YOU ARRANGEMENTS WHICH, WITHIN THE CANADIAN DELEGATION, WILL PRESERVE THE IDENTITY OF QUEBEC AND OF ITS REPRESENTATIVES. THIS ASPECT OF THE ARRANGEMENTS IS THEREFORE AGREED BETWEEN US.

THUS, FOR EXAMPLE, QUEBEC'S NAME WILL APPEAR ON THE LIST OF THE CANADIAN DELEGATION, QUEBEC'S REPRESENTATIVES WILL BE ABLE TO ADDRESS THE CONFERENCE ON MATTERS WITHIN ITS CONSTITUTIONAL COMPETENCE, THE QUEBEC FLAG WILL BE FLOWN AND THE SIGNATURE OF THE NIAMEY AGREEMENT BY CANADA WILL INCLUDE SIGNATURE BY A QUEBEC REPRESENTATIVE.

WE ALSO INSISTED ON INDICATING CLEARLY IN THESE ARRANGEMENTS, THE IMPORTANCE OF QUEBEC'S ROLE IN BOTH THE CONFERENCE AND THE AGENCY. THIS IS WHY WE PROPOSED THAT THE NUMBER OF QUEBEC GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES IN