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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
MAY 6, 1966.CANADIANS TO ATTEND CARACAS CONFERENCE

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Paul Martin, announced today that Canada has accepted an invitation to send observers to the Second Inter-American Conference of Ministers of Labour, to be held near Caracas, Venezuela, from May 7 to 14. Other commitments have made it impossible for the Minister of Labour, the Honourable J. R. Nicholson, to attend the conference. In the Minister's absence, the Canadian observer group will be led by George V. Haythorne, Deputy Minister of Labour. He will be accompanied by John Mainwaring, Director of the International Labour Affairs Branch of the Department of Labour, and by Jean-Yves Grenon, First Secretary at the Canadian Embassy in Caracas.

The Conference is to review the progress made in the participation of departments of labour and workers in national plans for economic and social development in the countries of Latin America since the first such Conference, held in Colombia in 1963. The Conference will also study prospects in the labour field in the hemisphere.

It is expected that Mr. Haythorne will discuss with the Latin American ministers and officials plans for the Eighth American Regional Conference of the International Labour Organization, which will be held in Ottawa from September 12-23 of this year.

The invitation was extended by the Secretary General of the Organization of American States in accordance with a resolution of the OAS Council adopted on April 6, inviting, with the concurrence of the Government of Venezuela, several countries which are not members of the OAS, including Canada, to participate in the Conference as observers.