

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTÈRE DES AFFAIRES EXTÉRIEURES

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VISIT OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS TO ZAMBIA

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Right Honourable Joe Clark, today concluded a two-day working visit to Lusaka designed to assist in the preparation for the forthcoming Francophone and Commonwealth summits to be held in Canada in September and October respectively. The visit was part of an African itinerary also including the Ivory Coast, Mozambique and South Africa.

While in Zambia, Mr. Clark held talks with President Kenneth Kaunda and with Foreign Minister Luke Mwananshiku. During these discussions, particular attention was paid to ways in which the Commonwealth can maintain its leading role in the search for peace and economic development in Southern Africa. Mr. Clark also talked with President Kaunda about African economic and political issues in general, especially in the context of Mr. Kaunda's recent election as Chairman of the Organization of African Unity. The state of bilateral relations and Canadian development assistance to Zambia and to the region were also reviewed.

Mr. Clark said "I deeply appreciate my detailed discussion with President Kaunda last night. His knowledge, experience and wisdom on African issues in general, and the Southern African situation, in particular, have provided me with insight valuable to Canada in chairing the forthcoming summits."

While in Lusaka, Mr. Clark also met with the Secretary General of the African National Congress.

Mr. Clark and his delegation left Lusaka today for Maputo, Mozambique.