

MESSAGE

EXTERNAL

FM/DE

DATE
6/3/70

FILE/DOSSIER

SECURITY
SECURITE

TO/A

THE HONOURABLE JEAN-JACQUES BERTRAND

NO

PRECEDENCE

URGENT

PRIME MINISTER OF THE PROVINCE OF QUEBEC

INFO

PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS,
QUEBEC CITY, (QUEBEC)

REF

SUB/SUJ

MY DEAR PRIME MINISTER,

THANK YOU FOR YOUR LETTER OF FEBRUARY 27 ABOUT QUEBEC'S ROLE IN CANADA'S PARTICIPATION IN THE FORTHCOMING NIAMEY CONFERENCE AND IN THE AGENCY FOR CULTURAL AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION. AS YOU KNOW, OUR OFFICIALS HAVE SINCE WORKED OUT ARRANGEMENTS IN THIS AREA TO DEAL WITH MOST OF THE POINTS RAISED IN THE APPENDIX TO YOUR LETTER. I AM THEREFORE ATTACHING A COPY OF YOUR TEXT, SHOWING THE POINTS ON WHICH WE ARE AGREED AND THOSE FEW POINTS ON WHICH FINAL AGREEMENT SHOULD NOW BE POSSIBLE. IT SEEMS TO ME THAT THE SUCCESS OF OUR NEGOTIATIONS TO DATE IS A GOOD ILLUSTRATION OF OUR INTEREST IN LA FRANCOPHONIE AND OUR DESIRE TO DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO ENSURE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE AGENCY ON A FIRM FOUNDATION.

YOUR LETTER MENTIONED THAT YOUR OFFICIALS HAD SUGGESTED SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES IN THE AGENCY'S CONSTITUTION, AND YOU ASKED ME WHAT I THOUGHT OF THEIR SUGGESTIONS. IN MY OPINION, THE CHANGES WOULD IN EFFECT ALLOW THE GOVERNMENT OF QUEBEC TO REGARD ITSELF AS HAVING SEPARATE AND DISTINCT MEMBERSHIP IN THE AGENCY. YOUR GOVERNMENT WOULD THUS BE KEEPING

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