



news release

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VISIT OF THE LAOTIAN FOREIGN MINISTER

Foreign Affairs Minister André Ouellet announced today that the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, His Excellency Somsavath Lengsavad, will pay an official visit to Canada from October 5 to 7, 1994. This will be the first time a Laotian foreign minister has visited Canada.

Laos is in the midst of changing from a socialist-style economy to a market economy. This visit is part of the opening of Laos to the outside world.

During his stay in Canada, the Laotian minister will meet with Mr. Ouellet to discuss regional security and the possibility of establishing development assistance programs in his country. He will also meet with representatives of the Canadian International Development Agency and the International Development Research Centre, which currently administer an assistance program in Laos.

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