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CANADIAN WOMAN ELECTED PRESIDENT OF UNESCO EXECUTIVE BOARD

The Minister for External Relations and International Development, the Honourable Monique Landry, is pleased with the election of Mrs. Marie Bernard-Meunier, Canada's Ambassador to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), to the Presidency of the agency's Executive Board. The election occurred in Paris on November 7, at the 26th session of the UNESCO General Conference.

"I am very pleased with the election of Mrs. Bernard-Meunier to preside over the Executive Board of UNESCO, an organization in which Canada has been very active for some years," said Mrs. Landry.

The Minister expressed confidence that the presence of a Canadian at the head of the Executive Board would give Canada a greater influence in the process of reform currently under way to transform UNESCO into an effective and truly universal organization that will include all the members of the international community.

Mrs. Bernard-Meunier has been a member of the Executive Board since 1989. She is the first woman to have been elected its President.

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