

RELATIONS BETWEEN CANADA AND SENEGAL

Our relations with Senegal are excellent. They are based chiefly on co-operation and La Francophonie. The points of view of Canada and Senegal on these two matters, as well as on such other issues as the North-South dialogue and the Law of the Sea, are generally harmonious, and as a result there is close collaboration between the two governments.

Canada comes after France as Senegal's second biggest partner in bilateral cooperation, and is at substantially the same level as the Federal Republic of Germany and the United States -- an indication of the importance of our program of co-operation with that country. Canadian projects are chiefly in the fields of fisheries, agriculture, advanced technological training, public health and energy, and they represent annual expenditures in the order of \$10 million.

Under the energetic impetus of its president, Senegal is very active in the various institutions of La Francophonie internationale, including the Agency for Cultural and Technical Co-operation, and it maintains close and productive relations with Canada within the framework of these institutions. Further, President Senghor has been promoting a summit meeting of French-speaking heads of State and government; his proposal is receiving the support of the Canadian government.

The Senegalese authorities have indicated to us their interest in seeing Canadians invest in their country. In this context the Senegalese government has welcomed Canada's participation in each Dakar International Fair. For its part, the Canadian government supports the efforts of Canadian firms interested in carrying out industrial co-operation projects with Senegalese partners.

President Senghor has visited Canada five times since 1966. Prime Minister Abdou Diouf has also visited our country, and we have in addition received some ten visits from Senegalese ministers in the last fifteen years. Seven Canadian ministers including the Honourable Pierre De Bané and the Honourable Marc Lalonde have paid visits to Senegal.

Canada's Ambassador in Dakar is Mr. Marc Perron, and Senegal is represented in Canada by His Excellency Ibrahima Boye.