



No. 065

March 23, 1988.

SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
TO MEET WITH LATIN AMERICAN FOREIGN MINISTERS

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Right Honourable Joe Clark, will meet with Foreign Ministers from the Rio Group of Latin American countries in Montreal on March 27-28, 1988.

The Rio Group is an informal consultative body which meets at the political level to review issues of importance to Latin America.

The Latin American Foreign Ministers who will participate in Montreal are Dante Caputo of Argentina, Julio Londono of Colombia, Bernardo Sepulveda of Mexico, Allan Wagner of Peru, Luis Barrios of Uruguay and German Nava Carillo of Venezuela.

The meeting follows up on consultations Mr. Clark had with Rio Group Ministers in New York last September. Mr. Clark's decision to invite the Ministers to Canada underlines the growing importance of Latin America in Canadian foreign policy.

The Ministers will discuss a broad range of economic issues, including the global economic outlook, the Multilateral Trade Negotiations, agricultural trade reform, and debt. The meetings will also deal with political issues, such as the current situation in Central America.

This exchange of views between Canada and its hemispheric partners will assist Canada in its preparations for the Economic Summit, to be held in Toronto on June 19-21, 1988.

- 30 -

Secretary of State
for
External Affairs

Secrétaire d'État
aux
Affaires extérieures