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JOINT PRESS STATEMENT ON THE OCCASION OF THE VISIT TO CANADA
OF THE FOREIGN MINISTER OF BRAZIL,
HIS EXCELLENCY MR. RAMIRO SARAIVA GUERREIRO,
SEPTEMBER 28 TO OCTOBER 1, 1980

At the invitation of the Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Mark MacGuigan, the Minister of External Affairs of Brazil, His Excellency Mr. Ramiro Saraiva Guerreiro paid an official visit to Canada from September 29 to October 1, 1980.

The two Ministers had extensive discussions in Ottawa during which they reviewed the relationship between Canada and Brazil and noted with satisfaction the extent to which mutually beneficial contacts have been developing. They agreed that the relations between the two countries should continue to expand in all areas, especially in regard to political and cultural matters as well as in the economic field. The two Ministers also had a very useful exchange of views on the world situation, particularly on North-South and on questions relating to their common region.

During his visit, Minister Guerreiro paid a courtesy call on the Prime Minister of Canada, the Right Honourable Pierre Elliott Trudeau, and had useful and constructive meetings with the Minister of Agriculture, the Honourable Eugene Whelan, the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce, the Honourable Herbert Gray, the Secretary of State and Minister of Communications, the Honourable Francis Fox, and on the Minister of State (Finance), the Honourable Pierre Bussières.

Minister Guerreiro also visited Montreal where he met with Mr. Bernard Landry Minister of Economic Development of the Province of Quebec and addressed a joint luncheon meeting sponsored by the Canada-Brazil Chamber of Commerce, the Canadian Association for Latin America and the Caribbean and the Canadian Institute of International Affairs.

Recognizing the value of more frequent consultations between the two sides on international as well as bilateral questions, the two ministers agreed that meetings for this purpose at the senior official or at the ministerial level should be held on a regular basis.

The two Ministers expressed satisfaction at the successful third meeting of the Canada-Brazil Joint Economic Committee which took place in Ottawa in June 1980, and the successful meetings of the sub-group on Agriculture and the sub-group on Industrial Co-operation. They noted that these meetings had identified a number of areas for mutually beneficial co-operation in the trade, industrial and agricultural fields and they agreed that officials of the two governments should continue their close contacts with a view to developing even further relations in these important areas.

Bearing in mind the cultural agreement between Canada and Brazil, the two Ministers agreed that much greater effort on both sides should be devoted to the implementation of that agreement in order to increase cultural and information exchanges between the two governments and between the people of the two countries which was so important for the development of greater mutual understanding. In this sphere, they reviewed the possibilities of exchange and co-operation in the area of the cinema and in this respect they registered, with satisfaction, the preliminary contacts already under way between the "Embrafilme" and the National Film Board with the aim of establishing, shortly, a regular program of co-operation with emphasis in documentary and animated films.

The two Ministers agreed that bilateral co-operation in science and technology is an important element of social and economic development. Bearing in mind the present activities in this field between Canada and Brazil, they agreed that officials of the two governments should examine ways and means to enhance this co-operation, including the possibility of negotiating an agreement or establishing other appropriate mechanisms with the aim of providing a broad institutional framework for consolidations of bilateral scientific and technological co-operation between the two countries.

Both Ministers recognized the important role that Parliamentary exchanges between the two countries can play in the development of closer relations. Dr. MacGuigan expressed his appreciation for the very warm and cordial reception which had been extended by the Government of Brazil to the Canadian Parliamentary Delegation led by the Speaker of the House of Commons, Madame Jeanne Sauv , which visited Brazil in August 1980. The Minister expressed the Canadian government's keen anticipation of a return visit by members of the Brazilian Congress at a mutually convenient time.

The two Ministers had a useful and informative exchange of views concerning the current international situation. They shared a deep concern at the increase in global tensions resulting from recent international developments and agreed that their respective governments should increase their efforts to co-operate bilaterally and in the appropriate multilateral fora to achieve peace and prosperity for all countries.

The two Ministers noted with concern the current hostilities between Iran and Iraq, and their implications for the political situation in the Middle East and for world oil supplies. They expressed their support for the unanimous Security Council Resolution 497 of September 28, 1980 which calls on Iraq and Iran to refrain immediately from any further use of force and to settle their dispute by peaceful means and in conformity with principles of justice and international law. They also affirmed their interest in continuing to exchange views with each other on this subject.

In regard to the situation in Afghanistan, they recalled their Governments' participation in the Sixth Emergency Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly and confirmed their support for the Assembly's resolution on this question.

The Ministers had a useful exchange of views on the Middle East question and agreed that it continues to be a serious threat to world peace, and that efforts must be continued and intensified to reach a negotiated peace settlement on the basis of relevant United Nations resolutions.

The Ministers discussed developments in Africa and agreed on the urgent need for an internationally acceptable solution to problem of Namibia on the basis of the right of the Namibian people to self-determination, independence, and territorial integrity. They condemned apartheid in South Africa as an affront to human dignity and agreed that the South African Government should repeal its repressive racial laws and ensure equal rights for South Africans of all races.

The two Ministers exchanged views about the current situation in Latin America and the Caribbean. In that respect they noted that the region is undergoing a process of political and economic change. They expressed the hope that the countries concerned would be able to overcome their difficulties without foreign interference and in accordance with the wishes of their peoples.

The two Ministers expressed their profound preoccupation with the current world economic situation which has deteriorated for all nations and in particular in the case

of developing countries. They also expressed their deep concern with the increasing resort to trade protectionism. They stressed their governments' intention to proceed with efforts aimed at continuing adaptation of the international economic structures that will facilitate the resumption of economic expansion in the world economy and international co-operation for development.

In that regard the two Ministers expressed their regret that at the recent 11th Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly it was not possible to reach agreement on the procedures for the global negotiations. They expressed their hope that in the near future these negotiations can take place successfully within the United Nations system, covering raw materials, energy, trade, development, money and finance, in order to take effective steps towards an improved system of international economic relations between developed and developing countries. In this regard they exchanged views on various ways to move forward in the North-South dialogue. There was agreement to maintain contact on initiatives to this end.

On analyzing the international energy situation the two Ministers agreed on the importance of an orderly transition from an economic structure based mainly on the use of hydrocarbons to a new era, in which the use of new and renewable sources of energy will progressively increase.

The Ministers exchanged views on matters of energy, in particular the role that renewable sources of energy can play in providing liquid fuel. Both countries have very large forest reserves which could be used for the production of energy. The Ministers agreed that collaboration in the development of the technologies for the exploitation of new and renewable energy sources would be of mutual benefit, and supported the exchange of technical delegations as a first step in strengthening contacts between Brazil and Canada in this area.

The two Ministers referred to ongoing negotiations on a bilateral agreement to avoid double taxation and agreed that those negotiations should be concluded as soon as possible.

The two Ministers agreed on the importance of achieving a consensus at the Law of the Sea Conference and expressed the hope that the final text of the convention will insure the rights of coastal states and a fair and equitable protection of the legitimate interests of all states including land-based mineral producers in the regime of the seabed beyond national jurisdiction which is the common heritage of mankind. The ministers agreed that the two delegations should consult further on questions of common interest regarding the current Law of the Sea Negotiating text.

The two Ministers strongly reaffirmed their support for the United Nations and the principles of the United Nations Charter. They agreed that all members must make greater efforts to seek ways and means to strengthen its effectiveness. They agreed that the permanent missions of the two countries to the United Nations should consult actively on issues of common interests to the two countries as well as on matters of general international concern.

Minister Guerreiro expressed his gratitude to Dr. MacGuigan for the hospitality and courtesies extended to him and Mrs. Guerreiro on the occasion of his visit. He extended a cordial invitation to Dr. MacGuigan to visit Brazil at a mutually convenient date. Dr. MacGuigan accepted this invitation with pleasure.