



# communiqué

N°:  
No.: 140

July 15, 1987.

MONIQUE LANDRY ADDRESSES SEVENTH UNITED NATIONS  
CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT

GENEVA--External Relations Minister Monique Landry today addressed the Seventh Ministerial Conference of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD VII), held in Geneva on July 15.

UNCTAD Ministerial Conferences, held every four years, are major fora and play a key role in the ongoing dialogue between industrialized and developing countries. This year the agenda covers a number of major international economic issues -- resources for development, trade, commodities and the problems of the least developed countries.

In her statement, Mrs. Landry reaffirmed Canada's commitment to "constructive internationalism" as the cornerstone of Canadian foreign policy. "To us, constructive internationalism means support for multilateral institutions, close cooperation with our main economic partners and an unshakable commitment to development in the Third World." The Minister outlined the many challenges facing both the international community and UNCTAD in the current difficult world economic situation.

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Mrs. Landry emphasized the need for continued and increasing flows of development resources to the Third World. She especially stressed the need for special attention to the poorest and least-developed countries, including exceptional treatment of the debt burdens which directly threaten their prospects for development.

The Minister stressed the importance of an early and successful conclusion to the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations. These could provide greater market opportunities for developing countries, she said, urging that all countries contribute to the strengthening of the world trading system.

Mrs. Landry said UNCTAD VII must give substance to the concept of partnership and cooperation between industrialized and developing countries. For Canada, UNCTAD, as an international organization, must serve as a source of innovative thinking; it must provide the kind of analysis and discussion that leads to concrete solutions to the real problems of development; it must also contribute to the consensus building process that makes meaningful, productive negotiations possible.

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