

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTÈRE DES AFFAIRES EXTÉRIEURES

communiqué

[№]: №.: 16

EMBARGOED UNTIL 11:15 HOURS

January 27, 1986.

TECCART INTERNATIONAL OF MONTREAL AWARDED \$12.6 MILLION CONTRACT IN GABON

External Relations Minister Monique Vézina and TECCART International President Robert Gaudreau today announced that TECCART International, a Montreal firm, has signed a \$12.6 million contract to set up a major public education programme in the African nation of Gabon. Participating in the press conference were the Chargé d'Affaires a.i. of Gabon, Mr Mathias Koundi Nang; the President of the Société d'exploitation des ressources éducatives du Québec (SEREQ), Mr Claude H. Roy; and the Member of Parliament for the riding of Hochelaga-Maisonneuve, Mr Edouard Desrosiers.

Madame Vézina paid homage to the outstanding efforts of TECCART, a company which has been active in Africa for a number of years. In winning this contract, TECCART has made a major commercial breakthrough into Gabon and into Africa.

Madame Vézina praised the collaboration between federal and Quebec governmental agencies. From the outset, TECCART received technical support from the Société d'exploitation des ressources éducatives du Québec (SEREQ). The Government of Canada will provide the financing for the contract.

.../2

Canadä

Known in Gabon as "Media-Villages", the TECCART project is of great importance to the rural population. The company will develop a public education programme within Gabon based on preparation of educational material on topics such as hygiene, rainwater recuperation, and rural cooperation. The project will include the education and training of Gabonese instructors.

"This project will substantially improve the quality of life for the rural population", emphasized the Minister. "Depending on the results of the first phase of this project - which will go into 100 villages - the programme could be extended to include another 200 Gabonese villages".

Minister Vézina thanked the Government of Gabon, represented by Mr Mathias Koundi Nang, Chargé d'Affaires a.i., for its partnership with a Canadian company from Quebec in this project.

- 30 -

For futher information Robert Letendre (613) 995-7269