



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
MINISTÈRE DES AFFAIRES EXTÉRIEURES

# communiqué

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VISIT TO AFRICA BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE  
FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
AUGUST 10-15, 1987

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Right Honourable Joe Clark, announced today that he will visit Côte d'Ivoire, Zambia, Mozambique and South Africa during the week of August 10-15, 1987. This working visit is part of the process of preparation for the forthcoming Francophone and Commonwealth summits to be held in Canada in September and October respectively. In view of the importance of the issues to be dealt with at these meetings, particularly regarding Southern Africa, Mr. Clark has decided to take an active personal role through working visits to these countries at this time.

In Côte d'Ivoire, Mr. Clark will convey the views of the Canadian government on the Francophone Summit and will be discussing, in particular, the economic situation in Africa, the question of commodity prices, and developments in Southern Africa.

In Zambia, Mr. Clark will hold discussions with President Kaunda. They will pay particular attention to the ways in which the Commonwealth can maintain its leading role in contributing to the dismantling of apartheid and bringing about non-racial representative government in South Africa. They will also talk about African issues in general in light of President Kaunda's recent election as Chairman of the Organization of African Unity. Mr. Clark will also meet with senior members of the African National Congress in Lusaka.

The visit to Mozambique will enable Mr. Clark to learn first hand from President Chissano about the economic and political situation in that troubled country. They will review the assistance Canada makes available to Mozambique both to help relieve the famine conditions in the country in

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the short term and to contribute to its long term economic development. Mr. Clark will also invite a Minister of the Government of Mozambique to be present in Vancouver in October because of the importance of Mozambique in any discussion by Heads of Government of the situation in Southern Africa.

During his working visit to South Africa, Mr. Clark will meet with the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. R. F. Botha. Mr. Clark's objective in holding talks with Mr. Botha will be to convey in person to the South African Government Canadian policy on apartheid. In concert with others, we will continue to exert pressure on the South African Government to dismantle apartheid and achieve an early, peaceful and negotiated solution to the crisis. It is now more than a year since the rejection of the invitation to dialogue issued by the Commonwealth Eminent Persons Group. Mr. Clark will want to hear from Mr. Botha about South Africa's intentions to initiate fundamental change and talk with leaders who have widespread support among the black majority. While in South Africa, Mr. Clark will also be meeting with the Rev. Alan Boesak.