



## PRESS RELEASE

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
OTTAWA - CANADA

NO. 54

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 12, 1956.

THE DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS ANNOUNCED TODAY THE COMPOSITION OF THE CANADIAN DELEGATION TO THE FORTHCOMING CONFERENCE ON THE STATUTE OF THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY, WHICH WILL OPEN AT UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS IN NEW YORK ON SEPTEMBER 20. THE DELEGATION WILL BE HEADED BY MR. M.H. WERSHOF, Q.C., ASSISTANT UNDER-SECRETARY OF STATE AND LEGAL ADVISER FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, AND MR. W.J. BENNETT, O.B.E., PRESIDENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY OF CANADA LIMITED, WILL BE A DELEGATE. MR. WERSHOF AND MR. BENNETT WILL BE ASSISTED BY THE FOLLOWING ADVISERS FROM VARIOUS GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS:

MR. SIDNEY POLLOCK OF THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE; DR. J.D. BABBITT, SCIENTIFIC ATTACHE AT THE CANADIAN EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON; MR. DONALD WATSON, ATOMIC ENERGY OF CANADA, LIMITED; MR. W.H. BARTON, MR. D.H.W. KIRKWOOD AND MR. G.G.J. GRONDIN OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND MR. M.A. CROWE OF THE PERMANENT DELEGATION TO THE UNITED NATIONS IN NEW YORK.

THE CONFERENCE WILL BE ATTENDED BY REPRESENTATIVES OF COUNTRIES MEMBERS OF THE UNITED NATIONS OR OF ONE OF THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES, ABOUT EIGHTY IN ALL. IT WILL HAVE BEFORE IT A DRAFT STATUTE PREPARED, AT THE SUGGESTION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS, BY A TWELVE POWER WORKING LEVEL MEETING IN WASHINGTON.

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LAST SPRING. PARTICIPANTS IN THAT MEETING WERE AUSTRALIA, BELGIUM, BRAZIL, CZECHOSLOVAKIA, FRANCE, INDIA, PORTUGAL, SOUTH AFRICA, THE USSR, THE UNITED KINGDOM, THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA. IT IS PROPOSED THAT WHEN THE FORTHCOMING CONFERENCE HAS AGREED UPON THE TEXT OF A STATUTE FOR THE AGENCY IT WILL BE SIGNED AND SUBMITTED TO GOVERNMENTS FOR RATIFICATION. THE STATUTE WILL COME INTO EFFECT, AND THE AGENCY INTO EXISTENCE, WHEN A DESIGNATED NUMBER OF GOVERNMENTS SHALL HAVE RATIFIED.

THE PLAN FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY, IT WILL BE RECALLED, HAS DEVELOPED FROM THE "ATOMS FOR PEACE" PROPOSAL PUT BEFORE THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN DECEMBER 1953 BY PRESIDENT EISENHOWER, WHO CALLED FOR THE CREATION OF AN "ATOMIC POOL" TO FURTHER THE DEVELOPMENT THROUGHOUT THE WORLD OF ATOMIC ENERGY FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSES. CANADA HAS CONSISTENTLY SUPPORTED THIS PROPOSAL, AND THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY LAST AUTUMN ADOPTED A RESOLUTION FAVOURING THE PLAN FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF SUCH AN AGENCY TO BE ASSOCIATED WITH THE UNITED NATIONS.