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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 1963.

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Paul Martin, announced today that Dr. Raul Prebisch, Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, will visit Ottawa November 28 - 29 for discussions with Ministers and officials on questions relating to the conference which is scheduled to open in Geneva, Switzerland, next March.

The holding of this Conference was decided by the United Nations General Assembly in 1962. It will be concerned primarily with the trade and development problems of the less developed countries. Over the past few months, Dr. Prebisch has visited countries throughout the world in order to explore and clarify the major problems that will be before the Conference. He will shortly prepare a personal report summarizing these problems and analyzing possible solutions.

Dr. Prebisch will meet with Mr. Martin, the Honourable Walter Gordon, Minister of Finance, and the Honourable Mitchell Sharp, Minister of Trade and Commerce, and he will also have meetings with officials. On Friday, November 29, at 8.30 p.m., Dr. Prebisch will give a talk to the Canadian Institute of International Affairs - Political Science Association at the Dominion Bureau of Statistics Board Room.

The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development will be an important trade meeting which all members of the United Nations will be invited to attend. A Preparatory Committee, consisting of thirty-two nations including Canada, met in New York in January, 1963, and in Geneva in May, 1963, to make preparations for this conference. Various proposals have been submitted to it for improving the trading opportunities and increasing the export earnings of the developing countries. The decision to hold the United Nations Conference is the result of a growing international recognition that the long-run economic development of the less developed countries requires that something must be done to assist these countries on the trade side.

Dr. Prebisch, who comes from Argentina and is an internationally-known economist, was appointed Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development by the United Nations Secretary-General. Before his recent appointment, he was Executive-Secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America. Previously, he had been Director-General of the Argentine Central Bank and Argentine Under-Secretary of Finance.

Dr. Prebisch will hold a press conference at 4.00 p.m. on Thursday, November 28 (in the Large Conference Room of the East Block).