

News Release

Department of
External
Affairs



Communiqué

Ministère des
Affaires
extérieures

No. 027

January 26, 1988.

HAITI

On January 18th, 1988, the Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Right Honourable Joe Clark, announced a review of Canada's relations with Haiti. As part of that ongoing review he today announced the creation of an All-Party Parliamentary group to study:

- 1) The programme to be announced by the government of Haiti and whether it responds to the needs and aspirations of the Haitian people.
- 2) Canadian aid programmes and whether they respond to the needs and aspirations of the Haitian people.
- 3) Ways in which the Canadian government can, while maintaining its humanitarian assistance to the poorest people in the Hemisphere, encourage the evolution of a stable democracy in Haiti.
- 4) The positions and policies adopted by other interested governments vis-à-vis the new Haitian regime.

Its chairman will be Jean-Guy Hudon, M.P., the Parliamentary Secretary to the Secretary of State for External Affairs, and will number five Members of Parliament. Each of the opposition parties will be asked to provide one Member. It will be mandated to report to the Secretary of State for External Affairs by March 31st, 1988.

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Secretary of State
for
External Affairs

Secrétaire d'État
aux
Affaires extérieures

Canada

Mr. Clark also announced that all planning of new bilateral aid to Haiti has been suspended.

Mr. Clark will meet today with representatives of the Haitian community of Montreal to advise them of the steps the government had taken. The Honourable Monique Landry, Minister of External Relations, will also be meeting over the next few days with community leaders interested in the situation in Haiti.