



communiqué

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CANADA ELECTED TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE INTER-AMERICAN COMMISSION OF WOMEN

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Barbara McDougall, and the Minister Responsible for the Status of Women, the Honourable Mary Collins, are pleased to announce today that Canada has been elected to the Executive Committee of the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM) of the Organization of American States (OAS). Kay Stanley, Co-ordinator of Status of Women Canada and Principal Delegate to the CIM, leads the Canadian delegation. This election marks the second anniversary of Canada's membership in the CIM.

"Our election to the Executive Committee will allow us to push hard on political, social and economic issues related to the advancement of women in the Americas," said Mrs. McDougall.

Executive Committee members are elected for a two-year mandate during the bi-annual Assembly of Delegates. The XXVI CIM Assembly of Delegates is being held October 19-23 in Washington. Canada will also chair the CIM's Juridical and Political Affairs Committee, which is working on a draft convention on violence against women.

"Canada joins other CIM delegations in discussing issues of concern to women, in particular violence against women and the implementation of CIM's Regional Plan of Action *Full and Equal Participation by the Year 2000*," stated Mrs. Collins.

The CIM is a specialized agency of the OAS that works toward social, political, civil and economic equality for women in the Americas and the Caribbean.

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