



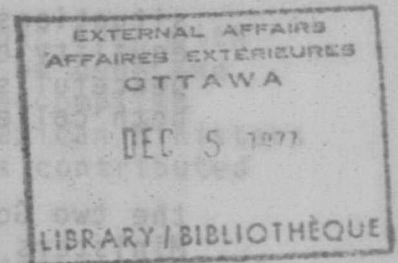
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THIRD MEETING OF CANADA-MEXICO
 JOINT MINISTERIAL COMMITTEE
 NOVEMBER 21 AND 22



JOINT COMMUNIQUÉ

The Third Mexico-Canada Ministerial Committee Meeting took place in Ottawa from November 21 to 22, 1977. The Canadian Delegation, led by the Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Don Jamieson, included: The Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce, the Honourable Jack Horner; The Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources, the Honourable Alastair Gillespie; The Minister of State for Small Business, the Honourable A. C. Abbott; the Canadian Ambassador to Mexico, Mr. J. C. Langley; Mr. Alan E. Gotlieb, Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs; Mr. G. F. Osbaldeston, Deputy Minister, Industry Trade and Commerce; Mr. G. M. MacNabb, Deputy Minister, Energy, Mines and Resources; Mr. R. K. Joyce, Assistant Deputy Minister, Department of Finance.

The Mexican Delegation, led by the Secretary of Foreign Relations, Mr. Santiago Roel Garcia, included: Mr. Fernando Solana, Secretary of Commerce; Dr. Edmundo Flores, Director of the National Council of Science and Technology (CONACYT); Ambassador Augustin Barrios Gomez, Ambassador for Mexico to Canada; Mr. Jorge Leipen, Under-Secretary of Resources; Dr. Francisco Vizcaino Murray, Director of the National Institute of Nuclear Energy; Mr. Jorge Velasco Ocampo, Director in Chief for Special International Affairs and Special Studies, Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Mr. Bernardo Sepulveda, Director of International Affairs, Ministry of Finance; Mr. Rodolfo Dominguez Calzada, General Coordinator PEMEX.

The Mexican Ministers had an opportunity to call on the Governor General, His Excellency Jules Léger, and to exchange views with the Prime Minister, the Right Honourable Pierre Elliott Trudeau, who recalled with pleasure his recent visit to Mexico.

Both Mexican and Canadian Ministers noted with satisfaction the important role played by previous Ministerial Committee Meetings in strengthening relations between the two countries. During the six years since the First Meeting of the Committee, Mexican-Canadian trade has nearly tripled and a significant number of concrete steps have been taken to extend and diversify the range of contacts between the Mexican and Canadian people as well as between the respective Governments and business communities.

In discussing the world and hemispheric political situations, the Ministers emphasized the principles of legal equality of states, respect for sovereignty, non-intervention, peaceful solution of conflicts and respect for human rights both collective and individual.

In reviewing the international environment in which the two Governments pursue their respective policies, the Ministers noted the similarity of their views and complementarity of their countries' interests in many areas of current international concern. They expressed the hope that the growing convergence of opinion among nations would lead to practical measures to reduce the disparities between developed and developing countries. Both the Mexican and Canadian Ministers noted that while the continuing world economic difficulties were an obstacle to early resolution of these problems, much could still be accomplished within the current constraints.

The Ministers underlined their concern over recent developments in South Africa and expressed their support for the arms embargo imposed by the UN Security Council. They agreed on the urgency of convening the Geneva Conference on the Middle East and commended the efforts of the Co-Chairmen of the Conference in working towards that objective. Ministers expressed their satisfaction with current direct contacts between parties aimed at achieving a just and lasting peace. In reviewing developments at the Law of the Sea Conference, they reaffirmed the strong commitment of both countries to an early and successful outcome to the negotiations and the adoption of a Law of the Sea Treaty. They noted the shared Law of the Sea objectives of the two countries.

At the request of the Canadian Ministers, the Mexican Ministers gave their views on the overall development of inter-American cooperation and integration. They explained their views on the role and importance of the OAS, BID, ECLA, SELA, and other institutions. Satisfaction was expressed over Canada's growing role in the above institutions as an element in developing closer ties with other countries of the hemisphere. The Canadian Ministers stressed the great importance they place

on consultations with other countries in the development of Canadian policies towards regional institutions. The perceptions of their Mexican colleagues were especially useful given Mexico's prominent role in these bodies. The Mexican Ministers indicated their willingness to exchange views on hemispheric issues on a continuing basis.

In examining bilateral relations the Ministers reviewed recent developments in the economic and commercial, technology, tourism, consular and cultural as well as political fields.

Mexican and Canadian Ministers noted that even with the increase in bilateral trade, much remains to be done and called for greater and more decisive efforts to accomplish this. The Canadian Ministers complimented the Mexican Ministers on the progress made over the past year which has contributed to improved economic conditions and confidence.

Mexican Ministers explained the development policies and priorities of their government and indicated that they would welcome Canadian participation in those sectors and projects where Canadian experience and expertise could be directly related to Mexican requirements. Particular reference was made to Canadian experience in the transportation (in the metro, suburban and rail areas), energy development, agriculture, fisheries, mining, forestry and pulp and paper sectors which could be brought to bear on specific Mexican requirements and establish the basis for more intense economic cooperation. It was agreed that officials from the two sides would meet early in 1978 to identify specific areas for commercial cooperation and individual projects and further look at opportunities for joint ventures, investment and technical exchange. The Ministers expressed a desire to increase science and technology exchanges.

Ministers concurred that there should be a much greater degree of interchange between Canadian and Mexican business communities (the efforts of the Mexico-Canada Businessmen's Committee were recognized in this context), between officials of both governments, and between Ministers themselves. In this regard, it was agreed that industrial missions geared to specific industry sectors would be useful in identifying viable areas in both countries for further economic cooperation.

Ministers agreed that Canadian participation in key Mexican projects as well as private investments and joint ventures offered an important vehicle for the intensification of the bilateral economic relationship. They further agreed that such activities, where in the best interests of both parties, should be encouraged whenever possible. They expressed satisfaction over the financial cooperation between the two countries

and a desire to assist the activities of regional and world financial organizations. They agreed to study ways of facilitating the flow of capital between the two countries.

They further noted that trade in energy products and minerals was an increasingly important element in the trade of both countries. As Mexico and Canada are both major producers and traders of energy and minerals resources, it was felt that consultation and cooperation between the two countries on resource matters would be most productive.

The Mexican Ministers expressed an interest in Canada's nuclear energy development program, and in possible applications of the Canadian experience to Mexican requirements. The Canadian Ministers outlined the terms and conditions under which the Canadian Government will authorize properly safeguarded exports of nuclear supplies and technology for peaceful non-explosive purposes. In this context, the Mexican and Canadian Ministers agreed to begin official discussions directed at establishing a bilateral agreement on nuclear cooperation covering specialized training in research and development technology and in specific aspects of nuclear industry such as fuel cycles and nuclear reactors.

The Ministers noted with satisfaction the growing number of tourists and visitors in both directions and agreed on the importance of facilitating the smooth flow, including prompt attention to consular cases and problems involving the welfare of their respective nationals.

The Canadian Ministers acknowledged with gratitude the prompt cooperation of Mexican authorities in establishing means of providing consular services to Canadians in Mexico including the accreditation of Honorary Consuls. The Mexican Ministers reaffirmed their interest in encouraging the development of private travel of Mexicans in Canada and of Canadians in Mexico. The Ministers were pleased that agreement had been reached on a Prisoner Exchange Treaty, which was viewed as a key element in the improvement of consular relations. Canadian Ministers indicated that legislation would be introduced in Parliament as soon as practicable which when passed would enable Canada to ratify the treaty and thus bring it into force.

In reviewing air relations between Mexico and Canada, the Ministers commented on the increase of air traffic and the importance of an equitable sharing of the benefits flowing from it. It was agreed that Mexican and Canadian officials should set a mutually convenient date for the resumption of negotiations of an Air Agreement.

Ministers expressed their satisfaction with the growth in cultural relations that has taken place since the bilateral Cultural Agreement was signed in 1976. The Ministers endorsed the recommendation of the specialized officials meeting held in Ottawa, November 8 - 9 that the exchange of cultural and artistic personalities be intensified.

The Ministers agreed at the conclusion of their discussions that considerable progress had been achieved towards their common goal of increasing cooperation and consultation between the two countries. The Ministers emphasized the importance of regular future dialogue between officials of the two governments.

On behalf of the Prime Minister, the Secretary of State for External Affairs renewed the invitation to the President of Mexico to visit Canada with dates to be worked out through diplomatic channels. It was agreed that the Fourth Meeting of the Ministerial Committee would be held in Mexico City at a date to be determined.