



communiqué

N^o: 33
No.:

MARCH 3, 1984

VISIT OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS MINISTER TO CAMEROON

The Honourable Jean-Luc Pepin, Minister of External Relations, announced today from Yaoundé that on February 29 he signed several cooperation agreements with the Minister of Planning of Cameroon, Mr. Youssoufa Daouda. The agreements, whose total value is \$77 million, include a multi-sectoral line of credit from the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) worth \$50 million and a grant worth \$4 million for studies in areas encompassed by the line of credit. They also include a CIDA loan of \$22.6 million and a grant of \$0.4 million for a rural electrification project in Central and South Cameroon. The agreements were negotiated in response to Cameroon's development needs, as set out in its Fifth Development Plan.

Mr. Pepin took advantage of his official visit to Cameroon to inaugurate the new offices of the Canadian Embassy in Yaoundé. During his remarks on the occasion, Mr. Pepin recalled the history of Canada-Cameroon relations and underlined the fact that the new Canadian Chancery is tangible evidence of the excellent relations between the two countries and of the increasing importance of Cameroon to Canada.

An important commercial contract between the Government of Cameroon and Janin Construction Montreal was signed during the Minister's visit. The contract, which is worth \$18 million and will use Export Development Corporation and CIDA lines of credit, is for the construction of five viaducts as part of the upgrading of the railroad between Douala and Yaoundé.

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Mr. Pepin inaugurated the playing fields of the Jean Tabi College in Yaoundé, a project which was completed with financial assistance from the Canadian Embassy, in addition to aid already provided by the Cardinal Leger Foundation. He also had a series of meetings with senior officials and other personalities.

The Minister leaves Cameroon March 3 from Douala, following meetings with businessmen and officials of the economic capital of the country.

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