

Du 22 décembre 1994 au 4 janvier 1995

Ministère des Affaires étrangères et du Commerce international

Direction des communications sur la politique étrangère (BCF)

(available in English)

**AFFAIRES ÉTRANGÈRES ET COMMERCE INTERNATIONAL
COMMUNIQUÉS :**

**Le ministre Axworthy annonce l'appui du gouvernement canadien à la tournée
Japonaise du Royal Winnipeg Ballet**

Le 4 janvier 1995, n° 2

Le ministre du Développement des ressources humaines et ministre de la Diversification de l'Économie de l'Ouest canadien, M. Lloyd Axworthy, a annoncé au nom du ministre des Affaires étrangères, M. André Ouellet, l'octroi d'une subvention de 300 000 dollars au Royal Winnipeg Ballet pour l'aider à faire une tournée d'un mois au Japon. M. Axworthy a remis le chèque aux représentants de la troupe de ballet à Winnipeg. La troupe présentera 18 spectacles dans 14 villes japonaises, dont Tokyo, entre le 18 janvier et le 18 février 1995. Le Gouvernement du Manitoba, la Monnaie royale canadienne et Wood Gundy accordent aussi leur appui à cette tournée internationale. « Le fait que le Royal Winnipeg Ballet effectuera une tournée d'un mois au Japon constitue un témoignage de la haute estime qu'il s'est méritée dans le monde international de la danse. De telles tournées contribuent à promouvoir le talent de nos artistes canadiens à l'étranger et à mettre en valeur la grande réputation artistique de notre pays », a souligné le ministre.

**Le Canada entreprend une étude pour améliorer la capacité
d'intervention rapide de l'ONU**

Le 4 janvier 1995, n° 1

Le ministre des Affaires étrangères, M. André Ouellet, et le ministre de la Défense nationale, M. David Collenette, ont annoncé aujourd'hui que le Canada vient d'entamer une étude approfondie sur les initiatives à court, moyen et long termes auxquelles l'Organisation des Nations Unies pourrait avoir recours pour raffermir sa capacité d'intervention rapide en temps de crise. « J'ai signifié l'intention du Canada de mener cette étude à l'Assemblée générale de l'ONU en septembre dernier, a déclaré M. Ouellet. Un examen de plusieurs missions menées au cours des cinq dernières années montre clairement qu'une réaction plus rapide et plus cohérente à une crise naissante aurait pu infléchir avec beaucoup plus de succès le cours des événements », a-t-il ajouté. L'étude a pour but de faire des propositions pratiques en vue d'améliorer la capacité d'action rapide de l'ONU dans le domaine des opérations de paix. La constitution d'un Groupe consultatif international, dont le mandat consistera à passer en revue les travaux, permettra d'obtenir le maximum d'apports internationaux à l'étude elle-même. De plus, tout au long de l'étude, le Canada procédera à de vastes consultations bilatérales avec les États membres de l'ONU, le Secrétaire général et son personnel ainsi que les observateurs intéressés. Le rapport de l'étude du Canada devrait être déposé devant l'Assemblée générale des Nations Unies et soumis à son Secrétaire général en septembre 1995, lors du 50^e anniversaire de l'Organisation.

Nominations diplomatiques

Le 23 décembre 1994, n° 251

Le ministre des Affaires étrangères, M. André Ouellet, annonce les nominations diplomatiques suivantes : M. Robert R. Fowler, nommé ambassadeur et représentant permanent du Canada aux Nations Unies à New York; M. Marc Lemieux, nommé haut-commissaire auprès de la République de Trinité-et-Tobago; M. Daniel G. Marchand, nommé ambassadeur auprès de la République libanaise; M^{me} Mary Mosser, nommée haut-commissaire auprès de la République de Zambie; M. John L. Paynter, nommé ambassadeur auprès de la République populaire de Chine avec accréditation simultanée auprès de la Mongolie; M. Michael C. Spencer, nommé consul général à Sao Paulo, Brésil; M. Christopher W. Westdal, nommé ambassadeur au désarmement.

FINANCES CANADA

**Entrée en vigueur de la Convention fiscale entre
le Canada et la République d'Argentine**

Le 3 janvier 1995, 95-001

Le ministre des Finances, M. Paul Martin, a annoncé que la Convention en vue d'éviter les doubles impositions et de prévenir l'évasion fiscale en matière d'impôts sur le revenu et sur la fortune entre le Canada et la République d'Argentine signée à Buenos Aires le 29 avril 1993, est entrée en vigueur le 30 décembre 1994 à la suite de l'échange, à Ottawa, des instruments de ratification.

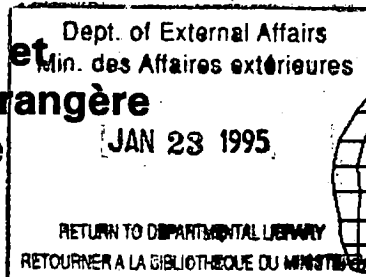
À VENIR :

Début de janvier :	Visite du Secrétaire général de l'OTAN à Ottawa
1 ^{er} janvier :	Investiture du président du Brésil, M. Fernando Henrique Cardoso (Brasilia)
17-31 janvier :	Visite du ministre des Affaires étrangères au Moyen-Orient
17-18 janvier :	Consultation annuelle avec les ONG sur la politique étrangère (Ottawa)
20-30 janvier :	Visite du premier ministre et du ministre du Commerce international en Amérique du Sud
27-28 janvier :	Forum économique mondial (Davos, Suisse)
6 février :	Chambre des Communes recommence à siéger
23-24 février :	Visite du président des États-Unis à Ottawa
27 février-11 mars :	Visite du Ministre du Commerce international en Australie

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**Le commerce et
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Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade
Foreign Policy Communications Division (BCF)

(disponible en français)

**FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND INTERNATIONAL TRADE:
PRESS RELEASES:**

**Léonard Legault to Head Canadian Delegation
to UN Commission on Human Rights**

January 16, 1995, no. 10

Foreign Affairs Minister André Ouellet today announced the appointment of Léonard Legault as head of the Canadian Delegation to the 51st session of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights. The Commission, which is the primary UN body dealing with international human rights issues, will meet in Geneva from January 30 to March 10, 1995. Mr. Legault is currently Ambassador to the Holy See. He has previously held a number of senior positions in the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, including the position of Senior Assistant Deputy-Minister (United States) and Co-ordinator, Free Trade Agreement, and Assistant Deputy-Minister for Legal, Consular and Immigration Affairs. His other postings included Warsaw, New Delhi, Geneva, Lagos and Washington.

**MacLaren Names New Chairpersons and Announces
Revising of Sectoral Advisory Groups**

January 16, 1995, no. 9

The Honourable Roy MacLaren, Minister for International Trade, today appointed new chairpersons and members of the Sectoral Advisory Groups on International Trade (SAGITs), which have been restructured and streamlined to reflect current domestic and international realities. Mr. MacLaren welcomed the chairpersons of the International Trade Advisory Committee (ITAC), its task forces and the SAGITs at a meeting in Ottawa. "The SAGITs have provided an invaluable source of input into the formulation of Canadian trade policy, particularly during the trade negotiations of recent years," he said. While the total number of SAGITs will remain at 15, membership has been reduced from an average of 20 to 17 members.

**Canada Accedes to International Patent Classification
Agreement**

January 16, 1995, no. 8

Foreign Affairs Minister André Ouellet and Industry Minister John Manley today announced that Canada has acceded to the Strasbourg Agreement Concerning the International Patent Classification (IPC). "Membership in the Agreement provides Canada with the opportunity to join its major trading partners in the ongoing development and maintenance of the international patent classification system and enhances Canada's position in the global intellectual property community," said Mr. Ouellet. The classification of patent documents is essential for the effective retrieval of patent information, and the use of an international classification system facilitates access to global technology. The Strasbourg Agreement will enter into force in Canada in a year's time.

Ouellet to Visit Lebanon and Kuwait

January 13, 1995, no. 7

Foreign Affairs Minister André Ouellet will pay an official visit to Lebanon and Kuwait from January 25 to 28 to hold talks with Lebanese and Kuwaiti authorities and to reopen the Canadian embassy in Beirut. "The reopening of our Beirut embassy marks a turning-point in our relations with Lebanon. It will enable Canada to strengthen its political and economic ties with this country and to play a more effective role in the reconstruction work currently under way there. As for Kuwait, it is an increasingly important economic partner for Canada. We would do well to strengthen our trade relations with this country," said Mr. Ouellet.

STATEMENTS

Now that we (Canada) have committed ourselves first to free trade with Latin America and later to free trade with much of Asia, the continued existence of barriers to trade with Europe seems increasingly anomalous. This is especially true since Europe represents our second-largest trade partnership — a partnership, moreover, defined not simply by the traditional exchange of goods and services but by an increasingly intricate web of transatlantic investment and technology. It is this concern about a possible drifting apart of our two continents that lies behind the Prime Minister's recent challenge to the European Union to consider free trade with NAFTA. Indeed, the goal would not simply be to secure market access but to help build the competitiveness, dynamism and critical mass of the transatlantic economy — in his words, "to re-energize our economic relationship." ... Since we are committed to free trade in the Americas, free trade in APEC and

possibly free trade with Europe, at some point there is potential for a new trade arrangement that bridges all the blocs — a kind of WTO-plus. Membership in such a grouping would depend not on region but on a willingness to commit to more intensive, more comprehensive rules-based trade and investment....the real virtue of a WTO-plus approach is that it would mitigate the "them-versus-us" mentality associated with regional blocs....Does the rapid expansion of NAFTA, APEC and the EU signal the triumph of regionalism? Or is expansion itself a sign that the regional blocs must ultimately build toward a more comprehensive trading order? Are we coming to the realization that global firms operating in global markets will sooner or later need global rules?

Notes from an Address by The Honourable Roy MacLaren, Minister for International Trade, (Delivered by Allen Kilpatrick, Deputy Minister for International Trade), to the Centre for International Studies and the Centre for International Business, University of Toronto, "Canada's Trade Policy for the 21st Century: The Walls of Jericho Fall Down", (Toronto, Ontario, 18th of January, 1995).

Human rights is not only a UN Charter goal in its own right, but an objective of direct relevance to the UN's security, development and humanitarian aims. Canada played an important role in creating the office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights with a broad mandate for promotion, protection, prevention, and technical assistance, and for co-ordination of human rights activities throughout the UN system. I would like to know your thoughts on how this new position can be made as effective as possible because the challenge we face now is to give practical effect to this mandate, to integrate the activities of the High Commissioner and other human rights mechanisms into the UN's political, security and developmental work and into the preventive, peacekeeping and peace-building operations of the organization....Consequently, my personal belief is that while the nations of the world cannot always intervene to stop these human tragedies, governments with a concern for human rights, such as our own, must turn their attention to the area of conflict prevention and mediation. This has traditionally been the role of the peacekeepers, but more and more, those of us who travel to distant parts of the world for our government are convinced that the "soft" end of conflict prevention — the early warning, the mediation, the confidence building and education — needs to be developed.... We as a government, and you, the NGO community, must continue to work together to promote and protect human rights throughout the world. I am sure these two days of consultation will assist in furthering this goal during the 51st session of the Commission on Human Rights.

Notes from an Address by The Honourable Christine Stewart, Secretary of State (Latin America and Africa), at the 10th Annual Consultation between non-Governmental Organizations and the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade in Preparation for the 51st Session of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights, (Ottawa, Ontario, 17th of January, 1995).

UPCOMING EVENTS:

January 19-30:	Prime Minister Visits Latin America and the Caribbean
January 25-28	Foreign Affairs Minister Ouellet Visits Lebanon and Kuwait
January 27-28:	World Economic Forum (Davos, Switzerland)
February 6:	House of Commons Resumes Sitting
February 23-24:	U.S. President Clinton Visits Ottawa

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