

REF



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
MINISTÈRE DES AFFAIRES EXTÉRIEURES

# communiqué

No: 100  
No.:

DIFFUSION: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
RELEASE: NOVEMBER 11, 1977

OFFICIAL VISIT TO UPPER VOLTA OF  
MINISTER JEAN-PIERRE GOYER  
NOVEMBER 6-9, 1977

At the invitation of the Government of the Republic of Upper Volta, the Honourable Jean-Pierre Goyer, Minister of Supply and Services and Adviser for Francophone Affairs to the Secretary of State for External Affairs, made an official visit to Upper Volta from November 6 to 9, 1977.

During his visit, the Canadian Minister had discussions with Government members, in particular with the Foreign Minister and the technical ministers concerned. He was received by the President of the Republic, General El Hadji Aboubacar Sangoulé Lamizana. Discussions centered on both bilateral and multilateral cooperation. A general agreement on cooperation between both countries was signed and also a number of memoranda of understanding concerning rural development, transport, telecommunications and rural radio.

Concerning international problems, the Minister raised with Upper Volta authorities various questions concerning in particular South Africa, the North/South dialogue and the establishment of a new international economic order.

... 2

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
AFFAIRES EXTÉRIEURES  
OTTAWA  
NOV 22 1977  
LIBRARY / BIBLIOTHÈQUE

In another connection, the Canadian Minister raised with the President of the Republic the proposal of a summit meeting of Heads of State of Francophone countries that might be held in 1978.

The Upper Volta Head of State declared himself favourable to the principle of such a meeting which could lead to reinforcing international cooperation and understanding between peoples.

Upper Volta expressed its keen satisfaction for the efforts made by the Canadian Government to promote more efficient assistance to the developing countries. The discussions took place in an atmosphere of perfect cordiality and mutual understanding.

The Canadian Minister, the Honourable Jean-Pierre Goyer, was particularly touched by the fraternal and warm reception that had been accorded to him and his delegation.

In a multilateral context, the Minister visited the headquarters of the "Comité interétat permanent de la lutte contre la sécheresse au Sahel" (CILSS) located in Ouagadougou. Mr. Ali Cissé, Secretary-General of CILSS, raised in warm terms the support of Canada to that organization, in particular during the meeting of "les Amis du Sahel" which was held in Ottawa in June 1977. He expressed his satisfaction at the exemplary cooperation between both administrations and underlined the key role of Canada in the development of a support strategy for the fight against drought in Sahel.