

United Nations

Press Release

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Biographical Note

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MICHEL A. SANTOS APPOINTED DIRECTOR OF DAKAR INFORMATION CENTRE

(The following is also being issued in Dakar, Geneva and Lome.)

Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim has appointed Michel Adjai Santos as Director of the United Nations Information Centre in Dakar. He will succeed Georges Vikar, former Director of the Centre, who has been reassigned to another post in the United Nations Secretariat.

Mr. Santos, a national of Togo, was born in Lome in 1930. He studied at the Faculty of Law and Economic Sciences of Paris, 1956-1959, where he received two certificates of licence in Law and Economic Sciences.

He attended the Institute of Applied Economic Science and the Institute of Political Science, both in Paris, 1959-1960. He also attended the Institute of Higher Studies on Overseas Territories in Paris, 1960-1961, after which he underwent training at the Centre for Economic, Financial and Banking Studies at the Central Bank for Economic Co-operation, Paris, 1961-1963.

Mr. Santos began his international career as Secretary of the Study Commission of International Seminar for Voluntary Workers, Council of Europe, Strasbourg, 1964-1965.

From 1965 to 1967, he worked for the "Voice of America" in Paris, Washington D.C., and in West Africa as writer/producer of educational programmes. In the following year, he served as writer for publications of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in Paris. He was also a writer, producer and news reporter for Deutsche Welle in the Federal Republic of Germany from 1968 to 1970.

Mr. Santos joined the United Nations Secretariat in 1970 to serve as Information Officer and was assigned to the Information Service of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) in Addis Ababa. He served in this capacity until August 1979 when he was transferred as Information Officer to the United Nations Information Service at Geneva.

Mr. Santos is married and has two children.

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Mr. Santos will take up his duties as Centre Director in Dakar
in May. He will be responsible for Centre services Guinea, the Gambia,
Guinea-Bissau, Ivory Coast and Mauritania in addition to Senegal.

Mr. Santos is married and has two children.

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