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MONIQUE LANDRY REAFFIRMS CANADA'S COMMITMENT TO AFRICA

In a speech to the Montreal Council for International Relations (CORIM) today, the Honourable Monique Landry, Minister for External Relations and International Development, reaffirmed Canada's commitment to Africa. She described Canada's policy toward Africa in broad terms and unveiled the main points of a new strategy of co-operation called "Africa 21." Mrs. Landry's intervention ended the activities of the second International Development Week.

"Canada's commitment is an essential and lasting one and places high priority on respect for human rights and good government management," said Mrs. Landry. She drew attention to the intensive consultations that have accompanied the reviewing of the policy toward Africa.

Mrs. Landry pointed out that Africa 21, which will be implemented by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), is designed to place, in a long-term perspective, Canada-Africa co-operation on the eve of the 21st century. Sustainable and equitable development will be a key element of the policy which will reflect the desire of Canadians to contribute toward democratic development and economic and social progress in Africa. As part of Canada's overall policy toward Africa, the new strategy will emphasize, among other things, regional economic integration on the African continent.

"Africa 21 will endeavour to fulfil the expectations of African partners who are seeking support as they progress toward unity, democracy and entrepreneurship," said Mrs. Landry. Africa 21 will aim at harmonizing the programs