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CO-OPERATIVE SECURITY COMPETITION AND SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS ESTABLISHED

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Barbara McDougall, today announced the establishment of the Co-operative Security Competition Program, with an annual budget of \$2.1 million. The program will provide financial assistance for projects that advance understanding, knowledge and public discussion of co-operative security issues. Mrs. McDougall also announced the establishment of a Co-operative Security Scholarship Program of \$200,000 per year.

"The Government of Canada firmly believes that international peace and security is dependent on fostering bilateral and multilateral dialogue and co-operation across the entire range of interstate relations," said Mrs. McDougall. "These programs will allow us to assist scholarship and projects that increase Canadian and international understanding of co-operative security and promote its practical implementation."

Establishment of the programs follows through on the Government's February budget commitment to reduce expenditure. Some continuing resources are being transferred from the Canadian Institute for International Peace and Security (CIIPS) to External Affairs and International Trade Canada (EAITC). The competition program also incorporates monies previously allocated to EAITC's Disarmament Fund. The termination and consolidation of programs will result in significant savings.

Examples of projects eligible for assistance from the Co-operative Security Competition Program include research, publications, conferences and seminars. Information about the program will be distributed to the interested

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