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CANADA-ZIMBABWE RELATIONS

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mark MacGuigan, announced in Salisbury today that a number of steps have been taken to develop Canadian relations with the new State of Zimbabwe.

-- During his attendance at the independence ceremonies for the former colony, Dr. MacGuigan conveyed a message from the Governor General of Canada, Edward Schreyer, (copy attached) welcoming Zimbabwe's emergence as a sovereign state. Delivery of this message also constitutes Canada's formal recognition of the new State and Government.

It was also agreed with the Zimbabwe Government that diplomatic relations would be established at the level of High Commissioners and that Canada will open a mission in Salisbury in the near future. In the interim, Canada will be represented by Terence Bacon, Canadian High Commissioner resident in Lusaka, Zambia.