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# news release

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## CANADA CONGRATULATES ISRAEL AND JORDAN ON DRAFT PEACE TREATY

Foreign Affairs Minister André Ouellet congratulated the governments and people of Israel and Jordan on the draft peace treaty initialed today by Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Jordanian Prime Minister Abdel Salam Majali in the presence of King Hussein, at the Al-Hachemiyet Royal Palace near Amman.

"This is the first treaty negotiated under the Middle East Peace Process that began in Madrid in 1991. It proves once and for all that the process is irreversible. Canadians greatly admire Jordan's King Hussein and Israel's Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, whose leadership and vision have made this breakthrough possible," said Mr. Ouellet.

The Minister stated that Canadians look forward to the imminent signing of the peace treaty, which is expected in the coming weeks. He added that the eyes of the world are on Jordan and Israel today, and that they have given us all hope that with courage and conviction, peace and justice will prevail.

He concluded, "This is a great day for Canada: we have long had a special friendship with both Israel and Jordan, and it is good to see our friends reconciled and building for a new future."

- 30 -

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