

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTÈRE DES AFFAIRES EXTÉRIEURES

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SSEA TO ATTEND THE UNITED NATIONS PLEDGING CONFERENCE FOR EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE TO THE PEOPLE OF KAMPUCHEA NOVEMBER 5 - NEW YORK

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, Flora MacDonald, announced today that she would attend the United Nations Pledging Conference for Emergency Assistance to the people of Kampuchea. The Conference, which has been convened by Secretary General Waldheim, will take place on November 5 in New York.

The purpose of the Pledging Conference is to obtain firm commitments of assistance to deal with the disastrous famine situation within Kampuchea, as well as the crippling shortage of medical supplies, shelter and transport. In addition to the \$110 million appeal launched by the International Committee of the Red Cross and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees will launch an appeal for \$60 million of assistance for the anticipated influx into Thailand of as many as 300,000 Kampuchean refugees.

Canada has already announced an initial contribution of \$5 million to the international appeal launched by UNICEF and the International Committee of the Red Cross (see attached communiqué). This contribution is intended for their joint relief operations both in Kampuchea and in Thailand where tens of thousands of Kampuchean refugees have already fled to escape the renewed hostilities and the famine.