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CANADA PROVIDES CESO CONSULTANTS TO SOVIET UNION

Moscow -- The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Right Honourable Joe Clark, today announced that Canada will provide 45 volunteer consultants to the Soviet Union. These volunteer business and industrial consultants from the Canadian Executive Service Organization (CESO) will assist firms in the government and private sectors to adapt to a market economy.

This \$500,000 project will enable CESO to provide specialists with many years of professional experience for the manufacturing, agricultural and business sectors; assist state-owned organizations with the process of privatization; and provide small teams of experts to help Soviet enterprises prepare for joint ventures by increasing efficiency and rationalizing operations.

Under the auspices of the Task Force on Central and Eastern Europe of External Affairs and International Trade Canada, CESO is also providing volunteer consultants to Poland and Hungary. A contract will also be signed shortly between the Task Force and CESO for projects in the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic.

The Task Force was established on July 4, 1990, by Mr. Clark to co-ordinate and administer Canada's technical assistance to the countries in economic and political transition in the region.