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GOVERNMENT CONTINUES TO ACCEPT CLAIMS AGAINST IRAQ

External Affairs Minister Barbara McDougall said today that the Government of Canada continues to accept claims, which will be submitted to the United Nations Compensation Commission (UNCC), from Canadian citizens and individuals who suffered losses caused by Iraq's invasion and occupation of Kuwait in 1990-91.

Canadian citizens and individuals who will have obtained landed immigrant status in Canada on or before March 31, 1993, are eligible to submit individual claims. Iraqi nationals who became Canadian citizens on or before March 2, 1991, are also eligible.

The government will submit eligible individual claims to the UNCC by July 1, 1993, the deadline for filing individual claims. The UNCC was established in Geneva by UN Security Council Resolution 687 of April 3, 1991, to deal with the large number of claims resulting from Iraq's invasion and occupation of Kuwait.

The UNCC will accept three kinds of claims: individual claims (departure, death or injury of a family member, losses under US\$100,000, losses over US\$100,000), corporate claims and government claims.

Requests for information should be directed to the Economic and Trade Law Division of External Affairs and International Trade Canada at (613) 995-2222.

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For further information, media representatives may contact:

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