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Communiqué

MRS. LANDRY CONCERNED ABOUT HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN ZAIRE

The Honourable Monique Landry, Minister for External Relations and International Development, today expressed her grave concern over reports from Zaire with regard to the tragic events of last May 11 at the University of Lubumbashi, in Shaba province.

"I was shocked by the news that I have just received concerning acts of extreme violence committed against a number of Zairian students by Government security forces," said Mrs. Landry. "Such actions must be strongly condemned."

Mrs. Landry emphasized the importance that Canada attaches to the respect for human rights in its foreign policy.

On May 29, the Minister called in the Ambassador of Zaire accredited to Canada to convey her deep concern over these reports. She stressed the importance of establishing all the facts surrounding this incident and urged the Zairian authorities to ensure that an open and transparent investigation is carried out.

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