News Release

Secretary of State for External Affairs



Secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures

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HUNGARIAN FOREIGN MINISTER IN OTTAWA OCTOBER 2-3

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Barbara McDougall, today announced that the Foreign Minister of the Republic of Hungary, Dr. Geza Jeszenszky, will arrive in Ottawa for a working visit on Wednesday, October 2.

"Canada and Hungary are both eager to strengthen the process of economic and political reform in Central and Eastern Europe," Mrs. McDougall said. "I welcome this opportunity to review progress and to prepare the way for still closer collaboration."

While Dr. Jeszenszky is in Ottawa, he and Mrs. McDougall will sign a Foreign Investment Protection Agreement assuring fair treatment for Canadian and Hungarian investments in cases of expropriation, nationalization or transfer of funds. Hungary has already undertaken 100 joint ventures with Canadian partners, representing investments worth \$40 million. Hungary has also attracted the largest share of Western direct investment in Central and Eastern Europe.

This visit allows Mrs. McDougall to continue a round of bilateral meetings with Central European Foreign Ministers begun in Prague and Warsaw on August 22.

Dr. Jeszenszky will also meet with the Minister for International Trade and Minister of Industry, Trade and Technology, the Honourable Michael H. Wilson.

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