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VÉZINA AT LAUNCH OF CANADIAN COMMITTEE FOR UN 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

The Honourable Monique Vézina, Minister for External Relations and International Development, today took part in the launch of Canadian planning activities for the 50th anniversary of the United Nations, which takes place in 1995.

"Canada has always been a strong supporter of the UN and has worked hard at the General Assembly and within the various UN agencies to promote a peaceful and secure world, where people are free to develop and prosper. The 50th anniversary of the UN is a perfect opportunity to reflect on how successfully we've been able to do that. It is also a time to look ahead to the challenges that continue to face the UN and consider new approaches," said Mrs. Vézina.

Mrs. Vézina commended the United Nations Association in Canada (UNA/Canada) for taking the responsibility of organizing and promoting the yearlong celebrations, along with government and corporate partnership. UNA/Canada has created a Canadian Committee to plan a series of activities that will highlight the importance of the UN and will involve the public through education and entertainment.

Mrs. Vézina was joined by foreign diplomats and other dignitaries for the launch, which took place at the headquarters of External Affairs and International Trade Canada in Ottawa.

Participating as well were: Richard Butler, Australian Ambassador to the UN and Chair of the Preparatory Committee for the 50th anniversary; Louise Fréchette, Canadian Ambassador to the UN; Geoffrey Grenville-Wood, President of UNA/Canada; and members of the Canadian Committee.

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