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McDOUGALL ANNOUNCES HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO ARMENIA AND AZERBAIJAN

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Barbara McDougall, today announced that Canada is providing \$500,000 in humanitarian assistance to Armenia and Azerbaijan. The funds will be channelled through the Canadian Red Cross for the purchase of relief supplies. They are part of a \$5-million package of humanitarian assistance for the U.S.S.R., announced November 1 by Prime Minister Brian Mulroney.

"I remain deeply concerned by the continuing conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan over Nagorno-Karabakh," said Mrs. McDougall. "This dispute has resulted in human rights violations, deprivation and hardships for the population of the region. Canada calls upon all sides to show flexibility and to compromise to find a lasting solution to this conflict."

The Minister welcomed the recent mediation efforts by Russian President Yeltsin and Kazakh President Nazarbayev. Canada has conveyed its concerns to Soviet, Azerbaijani and Armenian authorities, and the Canadian Embassy in Moscow is monitoring the situation closely.

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