is fierce competition for contracts, and there is no substitute for experience in the region," Mr. Crosbie said.

"Helped by the Private Sector Liaison Group on Kuwait Reconstruction, Mr. Clark and I want to ensure that Canadian products and services are employed to maximum effect in the reconstruction effort."

-30-

For further information, media representatives may contact:

Media Relations Office External Affairs and International Trade Canada (613) 995-1874

: