



No. 67

April 8, 1992

CANADA RECOGNIZES THE REPUBLIC OF BOSNIA-HERCEGOVINA

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Barbara McDougall, today announced that Canada has recognized the republic of Bosnia-Hercegovina as an independent state.

"This decision reflects our recognition of the new realities of the area," said Mrs. McDougall. "At the same time, I again call upon all parties to stop the violence that has caused so much suffering for all people of the region."

The Minister noted that negotiations on a new internal structure for Bosnia-Hercegovina, which address the concerns of all nationalities, are currently taking place. She added that, before establishing diplomatic relations with the republic, Canada will want to be satisfied with its intention to adhere to the principles of the Helsinki Final Act, the Charter of Paris and other Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe (CSCE) documents, particularly as they concern non-interference in the internal affairs of its neighbours, full respect for human rights and the protection of minorities.

Canada will continue to apply the United Nations embargo on the export of all arms to this area of conflict.

- 30 -

For further information, media representatives may contact:

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