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SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
RESPONSE TO REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE OF
THE PEACE PROCESS IN CENTRAL AMERICA

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Right Honourable Joe Clark, responded today to the report of the Special Commons Committee on the Peace Process in Central America, which tabled its first report in July. Mr. Clark wrote the Chairman of the Committee, the Honourable John Bosley, replying to the principal recommendations of the report, specifically Canadian support to verification and control measures for the peace process, contributing to and strengthening human rights and democratic development; economic and humanitarian assistance; and diplomatic representation in the region. Included in the government's response was a commitment to increase substantially, over the next six years, funding for economic development and reconstruction.

Mr. Clark expressed the Government's agreement with the main thrust of the report including most of its recommendations. He praised the work of the committee, especially the care and consideration that went into formulating a consensus. "The report reflects", said Mr. Clark, "the importance that Parliament and all Canadians attach to peace in Central America. The government will continue to seek ways in which we can encourage a just and lasting peace".

A copy of Mr. Clark's letter to Mr. Bosley is attached.

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Secretary of State
for
External Affairs

Secrétaire d'État
aux
Affaires extérieures