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MRS. LANDRY TO ATTEND MEETING OF REVITALIZED UN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

The Minister for External Relations and International Development, the honourable Monique Landry, will attend the first high level meeting of the newly reformed United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) in New York on July 6 and 7. The theme of this meeting will be "Enhancing International Co-operation for Development."

Among various topics she will address, Mrs. Landry will be stressing the priority Canada attaches to the new Commission on Sustainable Development, which will report to ECOSOC. This Commission will play a key role in the follow-up to the UN Conference on Environment and Development, which took place in Rio de Janeiro in June and which, with its effective structure, will be a model for reforming other UN institutions.

"Canada fully supports the Secretary-General's actions to streamline and improve the structure of the UN Secretariat," said Mrs. Landry. "We also welcome the process of restructuring and revitalizing ECOSOC itself. Canada has been very much a part of this reform process, and we attach considerable importance to its continuation. A renewed ECOSOC will permit discussions and decisions to be made that offer innovative approaches to major economic and social policy challenges."

ECOSOC is responsible for dealing with global economic and social issues within the UN system.

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For further information, media representatives may contact:

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