

News Release

November 21, 1994

No. 233

OUELLET CONGRATULATES MOZAMBICANS ON SUCCESSFUL ELECTION, ANNOUNCES \$2 MILLION FOR REPATRIATION ASSISTANCE

Foreign Affairs Minister André Ouellet today congratulated the people of Mozambique for having held the first multi-party elections in their history. The elections, declared free and fair by the United Nations, are the culmination of a peace process ending 16 years of civil war.

"The high voter turnout and the peaceful manner in which the elections were held show the determination of Mozambicans to end the conflict that has devastated their nation," said Mr. Ouellet. "It is now up to the country's newly elected leaders to use their mandate to work for national reconciliation and reconstruction."

Canada contributed to the electoral process by providing financial and technical assistance. Canadians also served as UN election observers and as members of a non-governmental organization observer team.

In support of Mozambique's reconciliation efforts, Mr. Ouellet announced that the Canadian International Development Agency is contributing a further \$2 million to the UN High Commissioner for Refugees to help with the repatriation of Mozambicans from neighbouring countries. Funding for this initiative was provided for in the February 1994 federal budget and is therefore built into the existing fiscal framework.

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