

undersized fish and illegal nets - emphasize the urgency of the situation.

Mr. Ouellet said that the negotiating team of senior Canadian officials which has now returned to Ottawa will be consulting with the Government on the state of ongoing negotiations.

"Canada looks forward to the continuation of negotiations. It is crucial that we succeed on the central issues of conservation and enforcement, as well as quotas, if we are to preserve not only the species but also the welfare of fishing communities for future generations."

- 30 -

For further information, media representatives may contact:

Media Relations Office
Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade
(613) 995-1874