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CANADA TO HELP PHILIPPINES IMPROVE PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Barbara McDougall, has announced the establishment of a new Policy, Training and Technical Assistance Facility for the Philippines. The Minister announced the project following a meeting today with the Foreign Secretary of the Philippines, Raul Manglapus. The two met in Manila, where Mrs. McDougall is attending the annual Association of South East Asian Nations Post Ministerial Conference.

"Canada wants to support continued democratic development in the Philippines," said Mrs. McDougall. "This project will accomplish that through Canadian experts working with their counterparts to strengthen public administration and administrative reform in the Philippines."

The Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) will contribute \$10 million to this five-year project, directed at administrative reform of the Philippine National Economic Development Authority, the Department of Budget and Management, and the Civil Service Commission, as well as the Finance, Environment and Science and Technology Departments. The project will focus on areas that correspond with proven Canadian expertise. The objective is to develop a public sector that can consolidate and build on recent democratic achievements in the Philippines.

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