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CANADIAN AID TO JORDAN

The Right Honourable Joe Clark, Secretary of State for External Affairs, today announced that Canada has decided to increase the level of its economic assistance to Jordan.

This decision, made after Mr. Clark's official visit to Jordan last April, illustrates Canada's desire to play a constructive and tangible role in the Middle East and to encourage the peace process in that region by giving political and economic support to a key Middle Eastern country willing to take risks for peace. This modest but concrete assistance will not only support Jordan's development efforts but also strengthen political and economic relations with Canada, both at the governmental and the private levels.

Consultations will begin shortly with the Jordanian authorities in order to determine how best to implement this Canadian decision. Enhanced cooperation, especially in the form of bilateral projects, will also encourage the Canadian private sector to participate in Jordanian economic development.

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