

Foreign Secretary Tello and Mr. Ouellet held extensive discussions on the question of Chiapas, and Mr. Ouellet met separately with Mr. Jorge Madrazo, President of the Mexican National Human Rights Commission. Mr. Madrazo has been invited to visit Canada. Secretary Tello outlined the actions undertaken by the Mexican government to date, and Mr. Ouellet indicated the desire of Canadians for a peaceful solution that addresses the fundamental underlying causes of the conflict. Secretary Tello confirmed the determination of Mexican authorities to reach a negotiated solution with the indigenous peoples of Chiapas and to thoroughly investigate all allegations of human rights abuses.

At the Joint Ministerial Committee meeting, the ministers also concluded that:

- a strong and concerted effort is under way to enhance Canadian exports to Mexico; and
- cultural and academic activities and exchanges between the two countries should be given a high priority.

Mr. Ouellet also announced that the next meeting of the Canada-Mexico Joint Ministerial Committee will be held in Canada in 1995.

- 30 -

For further information, media representatives may contact:

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