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CANADA CONCERNED OVER SITUATION IN ZAIRE

The Honourable Monique Landry, Minister for External Relations and International Development, has expressed serious preoccupation over the deteriorating situation in Zaire.

"The Canadian government is very concerned about the revocation of Prime Minister Tshisekedi's provisional government and about the use of force to attempt to compromise the democratic process," said the Minister, adding that the transition to a democratic regime ought to take place in accordance with the decisions of the National Sovereign Conference (CNS).

Mrs. Landry stressed that the Canadian government fully supported the efforts of Prime Minister Tshisekedi's government to achieve the objectives of the CNS. She added that until the Zairian situation stabilized, Canadian humanitarian aid would continue to be offered solely through non-governmental organizations and United Nations agencies.

At Mrs. Landry's request, senior officials of External Affairs and International Trade Canada have summoned the Ambassador of Zaire in Ottawa in order to convey to him the Canadian government's serious concerns about the democratization process.

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For further information, media representatives may contact:

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