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MINISTER CLARK WELCOMES DEVELOPMENTS IN POLAND

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Right Honourable Joe Clark today welcomed "the unprecedented and historic developments in Poland which have set that country on the road to democracy".

"The appointment of prominent Solidarity advisor Tadeusz Mazowiecki as Prime Minister embodies the reality of political reform and the acceptance of pluralism in Poland," said Mr. Clark. "Canadians applaud this important milestone on the road to representative government which reflects the will of the Polish people. We hope the democratic momentum in Poland continues to unfold."

Mr. Clark stressed that "Poland's hopes for democracy must not be allowed to founder because of instability growing out of overwhelming economic hardship. The Polish people urgently need international understanding and support to overcome their massive foreign debt burden and achieve economic reconstruction."

Canada, together with other Paris Club and Economic Summit countries is currently examining ways of assisting Poland and of ensuring that any future assistance is effectively coordinated.

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Secretary of State
for
External Affairs

Secrétaire d'État
aux
Affaires extérieures