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SECRETARY OF STATE STEWART TO ADDRESS UN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION IN GENEVA

Foreign Affairs Minister André Ouellet today announced that Secretary of State (Latin America and Africa) Christine Stewart will represent Canada at the 51st session of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights in Geneva. Mrs. Stewart will address the Commission on February 10.

"In keeping with the foreign policy statement recently announced by the Government, Canada regards the respect for human rights as an important element in the development of democratic societies and for global security. Canada will continue to support strongly the Commission's efforts to ensure effective and universal respect for the human rights standards its members have established over the past 50 years," said Mrs. Stewart.

While in Geneva, Mrs. Stewart will meet with the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Mr. José Ayala Lasso, and the Chairman of the Commission, Mr. Musa Hitam, as well as with other senior UN officials and diplomats.

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For further information, media representatives may contact:
Media Relations Office
Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade
(613) 995-1874



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