

### DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTÈRE DES AFFAIRES EXTÉRIEURES

# communiqué

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#### MAJOR CANADIAN INITIATIVE AT THE UNITED NATIONS

#### FOR DEALING WITH ALLEGATIONS OF

## CHEMICAL WEAPONS USE

In a very important step, the Right Honourable Joe Clark, Secretary of State for External Affairs, today conveyed to His Excellency Javier Pérez de Cuéllar, Secretary-General of the United Nations, the results of an extensive Canadian study on procedures to apply in cases where there are alleged uses of chemical or biological weapons. Ambassador Stephen Lewis, accompanied by Ambassador for Disarmament Douglas Roche, delivered a letter from Mr. Clark to the UN Secretary-General and presented him with a ceremonial copy of a Handbook for the Investigation of Allegations of the Use of Chemical or Biological Weapons.

The Handbook is the result of a study by Canadian scientists and officials, concluded under the auspices of the Verification Research Programme of the Arms Control and Disarmament Division of the Department of External Affairs.

The text of the letter from the Secretary of State for External Affairs is as follows: